Daily Report

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Tense Situation in Moldova Continues

Bucharest radio reports that, in a telegram sent to UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali, Moldovan President Mircea Snegur said his country "is facing serious danger, as its security, independence, and territorial integrity is challenged by the brutal and violent involvement in Moldova's internal affairs of the 14th Russian Army." A separate Bucharest radio report says the Moldovan parliament held a special meeting, behind closed doors, to discuss the country's sociopolitical situation. During the meeting, Snegur said the Moldovan leadership "has decided to take a categorical position" in making the withdrawal of the 14th Army the main condition to discuss the settlement of the conflict between Moldova and the Dniester Republic.

Snegur told the deputies that they must choose between stopping military activities in the Dniester region, or declaring "a state of war with Russia," according to ITAR-TASS.

A Radio Rossii report cites the defense minister proposing that the deputies "adopt acts on a state of martial law."

In view of the existing tense situation, the Moldovan president and prime minister are scheduled to meet with Russian deputy defense minister to discuss the terms on non-interference of the 14th Army in the Dniester conflict, Moscow Radio reports citing NEGA.

Republics Sign START Protocol

The foreign ministers of Russia, Kazakhstan, Byelarus, Ukraine, and the U.S. secretary of state signed a protocol "on fulfillment of the START treaty on the reduction of strategic weapons" in Lisbon on 24 May, Moscow TV reports. According to ITAR-TASS, the accord creates "favorable conditions" to enforce the START treaty and opens the prospect for "a further lowering of the level of strategic offensive arms." In seven years there "will not be a single nuclear warhead or strategic means of delivering one" on the territories of the participating republics.

Yeltsin, Nazarbayev Sign Cooperation Treaty

Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev signed a treaty on 25 May to form a "united military and strategic zone" and to use jointly "military bases, test sites and other military infrastructure," ITAR-TASS reports. President Nazarbayev said that both states "furnished a good example" to other CIS member states on resolving disputes and Yeltsin believes the accord "created a solid basis for relations within the CIS," INTERFAX reports. The document signed, according to Yeltsin's press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov, is a "kind of political test site, verifying philosophy and practicing the tactics of relations between independent states, that have emerged on the ruins of the communist regime."

Commenting on the results of the talks, Defense Minister Pavel Grachev stated the presence of nontactical weapons in Kazakhstan is "out of the question," according to Moscow Radio, "they will all be removed to Russia."

Yeltsin Meets Turkey's Demirel

Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel met with Boris Yeltsin on 25 May and signed a treaty which "puts an end to ideological limitations of the policy of blocs," ITAR-TASS reports. The treaty is "not directed against any third country" but is to promote "peace and stability in the region and the world." Yeltsin supported the Turkish initiative on formation of a "Black Sea economic cooperation region," with Russia and Turkey "destined to become the axis." The Russian President "highly assessed" Turkey's attempts to "promote the settlement of conflicts in the former Soviet Union and outside it by political means."

Republics Sign START Protocol in Lisbon

LD2305191592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 23 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The United States, Russia, Kazakhstan, Byelarus, and Ukraine signed a protocol in Lisbon today on fulfillment of the START treaty on the reduction of strategic weapons. This treaty was signed on 31 July 1991 by the presidents of the United States and the USSR. It envisages the reduction of strategic nuclear arsenals by one-third over a 7-year period.

'Nonnuclear' States Join

LD2405064892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0630 GMT 24 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon May 24 TASS—A protocol to the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) was signed in the Portuguese capital on Saturday [23 May] by the foreign ministers of Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, and the U.S. secretary of state.

This protocol is one of major international documents worked out recently, points out the Russian side's written statement read out at the signing ceremony.

The accord reached is of importance first of all because favourable conditions are being created for the entering into force of the START Treaty which is aimed at achieving strategic stability and which opens up the prospect for a further lowering of the level of strategic offensive arms and, consequently, for the strengthening of international security.

The written statement emphasises that Russia as the successor to the Soviet Union is a party to the treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and acts as a depositary of the treaty and consistently advocates the consolidation of the treaty and accession of all states to it.

"We particularly appreciate the protocol provision that Byelarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine should join the nuclear non-proliferation treaty as non-nuclear states, of course, which has been reflected in an appropriate clause of the protocol signed," said Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev.

Kozyrev Comments

LD2505000392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 24 May 92

[Correspondent N. Gongadze report from Lisbon; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The agreement on a 50-percent cut in the nuclear arsenals of the former Union and the United States was signed a year ago. The collapse of the Soviet empire and the emergence of independent states on its territory has given the document a somewhat different nature.

Along with Russia, Ukraine, Byelarus, and Kazakhstan have joined in resolving this extremely important international problem. A considerable strategic arsenal is still located on their territories; that is why the protocol in Lisbon already has been signed by the foreign ministers of five countries. It is thought that after seven years there will not be a single nuclear warhead or strategic means of delivering one on the territory of the Republics of Byelarus, Kazakhstan, or Ukraine.

[Begin Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev recording] I believe that this document provides the possibility of resolving two questions at once: First, to set in motion, after ratification, the treaty on the reduction of strategic offensive weapons, and second, to ensure the operation of the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons on the territories of the former Soviet Union. The international community, the CIS, and each state individually gains from this because two international treaties will be consolidated and will start to operate with full effect on the territories of the former Soviet Union. [end recording]

'Regret' Expressed Over China's Nuclear Test

LD2205215392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2019 GMT 22 May 92

[Text] Moscow, 22 May (ITAR-TASS)—It now is known that at 0900 Moscow time on 21 May, China carried out an underground nuclear explosion at the Lop Nor test-range (approximately 1,000 km from the CIS border). Russian experts estimate that the explosion had a yield of between 1 and 2 megatonnes.

"The Russian Federation's Foreign Ministry expresses regret at the fact that in conditions of a continuing moratorium on nuclear tests by Russia and France, and also some amount of restraint in nuclear weapons testing being shown by other nuclear states, China has embarked on this step, which could seriously complicate the process of improving the international situation and curtailing the arms race," says a statement issued here by Russia's Foreign Ministry. "A noticeable feature is that the yield of the explosion carried out greatly exceeded the threshold which has been adhered to by other nuclear states for many years. It is well known that Russia and the United States are complying with the treaty concluded in 1974 on not exceeding nuclear explosion yields of 150 kilotonnes."

"In advocating the soonest possible halting of all nuclear weapon tests, the Russian side expresses the hope that its efforts in this area will be supported by all nuclear powers, including, of course, China. As a specific step on the way to this goal, we call on China to join the

moratorium on nuclear tests, which is at present being adhered to by Russia and France."

Nazarbayev on Arms Treaty, Collective Security

LD2405182192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 24 May 92

[Video report by correspondent Aleksandr Peslyak from Moscow's Vnukovo Airport; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The first official visit to the United States by Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev has ended. He arrived back in Moscow today and will meet Russian President Yeltsin tomorrow. Awaiting Nazarbayev's airplane this morning were officials and numerous journalists who were interested in discovering directly from the president Kazakhstan's position on nuclear disarmament, especially as it has been defined literally during the last few days in Washington and Lisbon.

[Peslyak] The long-term documents signed in the economic and scientific and technical sphere on mutual investment, as well as the mutually advantageous agreement with the Chevron Company on the Tengiz oilfield, are the first signs of big business' confidence in Kazakhstan. Here is what Nazarbayev had to say in regard to politics, global problems, and nuclear fears.

[Begin Nazarbayev recording] We have been recognized by the United States as a party to the treaty and will ratify the treaty on strategic offensive weapons independently. Second, on 15 May we set up the collective security council. [end recording]

[Peslyak] This is where six CIS countries proclaimed that aggression against one of the participants would be considered aggression against them all. According to Nazarbayev, the Russian nuclear umbrella will fully guarantee Kazakhstan's security.

For their part, the Americans confirmed that any state that declares itself a nuclear-free state would be under the protection of the world community. Finally, Nazarbayev recalled that second to Japan, Kazakhstan has suffered more than anyone from atomic energy. Nuclear explosions have been carried out secretly there for 40 years. This is the source of the battle against all means of mass destruction in their own and other countries.

[Begin Nazarbayev recording] This is why we will implement all of the points within the treaty on the reduction and destruction of nuclear weapons. We are joining the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons as a nuclear-free state. [end recording]

CIS Agreement on Chemical Weapons Issued

PM2205151392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 May 92 First Edition p 2

["Agreement Among the CIS States on Chemical Weapons," adopted at 15 May session of Council of CIS heads of state in Tashkent]

[Text] The states of the Commonwealth of Independent States, henceforth known as the "Commonwealth states,"

acknowledging that chemical weapons were created as part of the unified strategic potential of the former USSR in the security interests of the republics comprising it,

noting that all the facilities for storing and producing chemical weapons are on the territory of the Russian Federation,

confirming the commitments on joint participation in preparing and implementing international treaties on questions of arms cuts,

being filled with the determination to continue to act to ensure the speediest prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons, and their destruction, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Commonwealth states confirm the former USSR's commitments under the 17 June 1925 Geneva Protocol.

In so doing:

the Russian Federation will take it upon itself to implement the commitments arising out of this protocol, while confirming the reservations about the possible retaliatory use of chemical weapons made on 5 April 1928 when the ratification document was deposited,

the remaining Commonwealth states, which have no chemical weapons storage or production facilities on their territory, will consider the possibility of subscribing to the Geneva Protocol without any reservations about the right to retaliatory use of chemical weapons.

Article 2

The Commonwealth states will conduct a coordinated policy in order to conclude as soon as possible a properly verifiable multilateral Convention on Chemical Weapons prohibiting at the global level the development, production, and use of chemical weapons and ensuring the elimination of all stocks.

Article 3

The Commonwealth states will stand by the decision announced by the former USSR in 1987 on halting the production of chemical weapons.

Article 4

The Russian Federation will commit itself to destroying chemical weapons with consideration for its real capabilities and in accordance with international agreements.

The Commonwealth states will cooperate in the destruction of chemical weapons. Questions of the Commonwealth states' involvement in the specific funding of measures to destroy stocks of chemical weapons are regulated by a separate agreement.

Article 5

The Commonwealth states will conduct a coordinated policy to monitor [po kontrolyu za] the export of "dual-purpose" chemicals, which are produced by industry for peaceful purposes but could be used to produce chemical weapons, and also of the technologies for their manufacture.

Article 6

The Commonwealth states will consult with one another on all matters related to the prohibition of chemical weapons.

Article 7

This agreement enters into force the moment it is signed.

Done in Tashkent on 15 May 1992 in one authentic copy in Russian. The authentic copy will be kept in the archives of the Republic of Byelarus Government, which will send a certified copy of it to the states that have signed this treaty.

The document has been signed by the representatives of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

Kozyrev Warns Turkey Against Attacking Armenia

LD2205212392 Lisbon RDP Comercial Radio Network in Portuguese 2100 GMT 22 May 92

[Text] Russia has warned Turkey that, in the event of an attack by the Turkish Armed Forces against Armenia, Russia will come to the latter's rescue.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev made the above statement at a news conference in Lisbon. He does not believe that there may be a Turkish armed intervention, however. Even so, the warning has been made.

Conference on CIS Aid Opens in Lisbon

LD2305172392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1627 GMT 23 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelyov]

[Text] Lisbon, May 23 TASS—An international two-day conference on aid to newly independent Commonwealth countries opened at the cultural center "Belem" in the Portuguese capital. Opening a two-day conference, Portuguese Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva greeted its participants—representatives of almost 80 countries. Delegates of Commonwealth states and Georgia are taking part in the Lisbon forum.

Speaking at the conference were Portuguese Foreign Minister Joao de Deus Pinheiro and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker—on behalf of the countries which organized the first conference of this kind. Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev also spoke at the forum.

Kozyrev Expresses 'Gratitude'

LD2305200492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1830 GMT 23 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon, 23 May—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev spoke at the Lisbon international conference on aid to the new independent states of the CIS, which has opened. He expressed his profound gratitude to the organizers of this forum and to all those states which supported Russia "at a critical moment in its history." At the same time, the minister stressed, Russia realizes perfectly well that free humanitarian aid can only temporarily alleviate the difficulties of the transition from an anti-economy to a normal economy. Russia's fate, he said, is in the hands of Russia itself and its democratically elected authorities.

The new Russia, Andrey Kozyrev continued, is not going out into the world with a begging bowl. It is seeking cooperation in its restructuring and its political and economic reform of society. The success of the programs that Russia plans depends on the best possible use of raw materials, industrial resources, and energy, in combination with the introduction of advanced technology, the minister said.

He noted that Russia would like its economy to become attractive to private capital and foreign investmentas as quickly as possible . In the minister's opinion, this would be facilitated if donor countries were to be given export guarantees for credits issued by private banks. Such measures as the use of the computer base of the IMF, the IBRD [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development], and other international financial and economic institutions, and assistance from Western farmers in training Russian agricultural specialists would also help.

Andrey Kozyrev highly praised the projects prepared by the conference working groups. He said that U.S. proposals with regard to drafting measures to ensure the safety of nuclear power stations in Russia, Finland's idea of a masterplan for power generation in Russia, and proposals for the establishment of computer information centers and data banks with information on cooperation between donors and recipients were particularly interesting.

In conclusion, the minister stressed that despite all the difficulties it is experiencing, the new Russia is not turning its back on the problems of the world community. "We are prepared," Andrey Kozyrev said, "to make our contribution to its well-being and prosperity. This includes peacekeeping and mediation in conflicts of various kinds, as well as work within the UN Security Council and the CSCE."

Science Center Accord Signed

LD2405172392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1612 GMT 24 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon May 24 TASS—An agreement on setting up an international scientific and technological centre in Russia was initialled here on Sunday [24 May] by the participants in the quadripartite negotiations who held their meeting simultaneously with the Lisbon conference on aid to newly independent states of the CIS. Representatives of Russia, the United States, Japan and the European Community participate in the negotiations.

The idea of setting up such a centre in Russia was first suggested in February 1992 by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, FRG Chancellor Hans-Dietrich Genscher and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

A statement adopted by the participants in the negotiation says that the parties will act without delay so that the agreement be signed and go into effect sooner. The document says urgent measures will be taken so that the centre which already has a fund of 100 million dollars could begin functioning this July.

Statement on Yugoslavia Adopted

LD2405171792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1610 GMT 24 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon May 24 TASS—Participants in the Lisbon international conference on aid to newly independent states of the CIS expressed profound concern over the escalation of the conflict in Yugoslavia, above all in Bosnia and Hercegovina. The statement adopted by the ministers says that this leads to vast human suffering and has a destabilising effect on the entire region and undermines reforms everywhere in Europe.

The ministers urged all the parties involved in the conflict to show restraint, to adhere to the principles of CSCE and simultaneously conduct negotiations on a political solution to the crisis.

Dniester Issue Discussed

AU2505131192 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1232 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] Lisbon, ROMPRES, 25/5/1992—In his address to the second international conference on aid to countries in the former Soviet Union, held in Lisbon on May 23 and 24, Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase supported the viewpoint, expressed by some of the most important aid donors, according to which the assistance meant for the newly-independent states will fail to attain its aim if it is taken as an act of charity. All the more so as external aid offered without a democratic conditioning will encourage rather than brake old reflexes in some of the components of the CIS.

"Naturally, the international programme for assistance to the newly-independent states—understood as partnership implying mutual obligations—could become an important step on that road," Mr. Nastase pointed out, adding that Romania backed the establishment of a consultative mechanism apt to render assistance conditional upon progress on the road of reform, and expressing Romania's interest in becoming a part of that programme.

In conclusion, Adrian Nastase said: "I should like to call attention to the troublesome developments in the Eastern part of the Republic of Moldova. It has become more and more obvious that the active interference of an army belonging to a foreign country, that morally and materially supports the separatists, prevents the peaceful settlement of the state of tension in Transdniestria".

'Emergency Meeting' Held

LD2405230492 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 24 May 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The shelling of villages in the Dubossary area and on the right bank of the Dniester continued today. Once again there are casualties and damage. Some 200 local residents have left the village of Rogi. The conflict is spreading. The issue of its possible settlement was on the agenda today in Lisbon. Here is a report by Vladislav Flyarkovskiy:

[Begin recording] [Flyarkovskiy] As the International conference on coordinating aid to the Commonwealth was completing its work in Lisbon today, the foreign ministers of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania held an emergency meeting in view of the worsening situation in the Dniester region.

[Kozyrev] The only sensible path now is to stop and to back away from each other to a distance of security clear to both sides so as to show: I am not going to fire. That is what needs to be done—to move back and say: I am not going to attack. That is all. Then you will see, right away, that there is no need for diplomacy.

[Flyarkovskiy] [Words indistinct] to force them to do this. That is what is needed?

[Kozyrev] I hope that this is the force of reason. At any rate, we will be trying to apply this force here. [end recording]

Decision Reviewed

LD2505043292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1830 GMT 24 May 92

[Text] A two-day debate on steps to coordinate assistance to the newly independent states of the CIS has taken place in Lisbon. Our correspondent Igor Kudrin reports from Madrid:

[Kudrin] Representatives of 82 countries and important international organizations took part in this conference, which is further evidence of the international community's concern over the current situation in the former USSR republics. This is not the first time that the West has tackled the issue of support to the 11 CIS states and Georgia. At the beginning of the year, Washington made the decision to provide temporary humanitarian aid; now, in the Portuguese capital, long-term assistance was discussed, including the transfer of modern technologies, exchanges, and training of specialists.

The foreign ministers of the 12 states were invited to the conference this time and their requests were considered; this will help in the future in selecting an individual approach to the cooperation with each of the republics.

It must be said that the creditors' camp has not come to a consensus in this respect. A number of EEC countries have recently run into their own financial problems. It is believed here that the EEC, which accounts for 78 percent of the assistance to the new states, is bearing too much of the financial burden. One European leader said recently: "Watering a huge market garden the size of the territory of the former Soviet Union is just beyond our

capacity". Like his colleagues, he thinks that wealthy big shots like the United States and Japan should increase their share of the financing to promote political and economic stability in the world.

Another thing: It is being suggested in certain quarters that the 12 republics at the conference were no better than beggars with their hands out after giving up on their own potential. It is not by accident that Portuguese and Spanish newspapers let it slip in passing that all the ambassadors of the former USSR republics had allegedly flown into Lisbon and were staying there at the courtesy of Western generosity. The Russian foreign minister stated that Russia was in no way a suppliant and that the destiny of the Republic was in its own hands. The temporary assistance provided by the West during the critical period will simply enable it to speed up the political and economic transformations and become a reliable business partner for everybody.

Important documents were adopted in Lisbon and major decisions were made. It is now to be hoped that they will be successfully implemented. A lot depends on our own efficiency and skill, not only on the creditors. International aid will not last forever and it is not always disinterested; it must therefore yield a high return.

Gorbachev 'Offered' Role of Mideast Mediator

LD2505213192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 25 May 92

[From the "Novosti" program]

[Text] [Komarova] As THE TIMES reports today, former President of the USSR Mikhail Gorbachev was planning to go on a visit to Israel when King Husayn of Jordan and President Mubarak of Egypt offered him the role of mediator in the Mideast talks. Although the task is not the easiest, it is unlikely that Gorbachev would refuse.

CIS Tashkent Summit

Tashkent Statement on Armed Forces Cutbacks

PM2205140392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 May 92 First Edition p 2

["Statement by the Heads of CIS Member States on the Reduction of the Armed Forces of the Former USSR," adopted at 15 May session of the Council of CIS Heads of State in Tashkent]

[Text] Confirming the adherence of the states belonging to the CIS as the legal heir of the former USSR to the international commitments of the former USSR in the field of disarmament and arms control, being persuaded of the need for the further development of the process of the consolidation of security and cooperation in various regions and in the world as a whole on the basis of the radical reduction of existing military potentials,

The heads of the CIS states state:

I

The CIS states confirm their intentions to reduce the armed forces of the former USSR within deadlines agreed among themselves which do not contradict international treaties.

II

The CIS states undertake not to implement unilateral decisions and actions that could harm the fulfillment of the international commitments of the former USSR for the reduction and limitation of armed forces and armaments.

Done at the city of Tashkent 15 May 1992 in a single authentic copy in the Russian language. The authentic copy is stored in the archive of the government of the Republic of Byelarus, which will send a certified copy to the states that have signed this statement.

The document has been signed by representatives of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Ukraine.

Treaty on CIS Collective Security Published

PM2205151592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 May 92 First Edition p 2

["Treaty on Collective Security" signed by representatives of Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, adopted at 15 May session of Council of CIS Heads of State in Tashkent]

[Text] The states participating in the present treaty, hereinafter referred to as "participating states,"

Guided by the independent states' declarations of sovereignty,

Mindful of the creation by the participating states of their own armed forces,

Taking coordinated actions in the interests of ensuring collective security,

Recognizing the need to strictly fulfill the treaties that have been concluded with regard to the reduction of arms and armed forces and the strengthening of confidence-building measures, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The participating states confirm their commitment to refrain from the use or threat of force in interstate relations. They pledge to resolve all disagreements among themselves and with other states by peaceful means.

The participating states will not enter into military alliances or participate in any groupings of states, nor in actions directed against another participating state.

In the event of the creation of a system of collective security in Europe and Asia and the conclusion of treaties on collective security to that end—for which the contracting parties will strive unswervingly—the participating states will enter into immediate consultations with each other for the purpose of incorporating the necessary intentions in the present treaty.

Article 2

The participating states will consult with each other on all important questions of international security affecting their interests and will coordinate their positions on these questions.

In the event of the emergence of a threat to the security, territorial integrity, and sovereignty of one or several participating states or of a threat to international peace and security, the participating states will immediately activate the mechanism of joint consultations for the purpose of coordinating their positions and taking measures to eliminate the threat that has emerged.

Article 3

The participating states will form a Collective Security Council consisting of the heads of participating states and the commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces.

Article 4

If one of the participating states is subjected to aggression by any state or group of states, this will be perceived as aggression against all participating states to this treaty.

In the event of an act of aggression being committed against any of the participating states, all the other participating states will give it the necessary assistance, including military assistance, and will also give support

with the means at their disposal by way of exercising the right to collective defense in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter.

The participating states will immediately inform the UN Security Council of any measures taken on the basis of this article. When implementing these measures, the participating states will abide by the corresponding provisions of the UN Charter.

Article 5

The Collective Security Council of the participating states and the organs to be created by it undertake the coordination and ensuring of joint activities by the participating states in accordance with this treaty. Until the aforesaid organs have been created, the activities of the armed forces of the participating states will be coordinated by the High Command of the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces.

Article 6

Any decision to use armed forces for the purpose of repulsing aggression in accordance with Article 3 of the present treaty is adopted by the heads of the participating states.

The use of armed forces outside the territory of the participating states can be effected exclusively in the interests of international security in strict compliance with the UN Charter and the legislation of participating states in the present treaty.

Article 7

The location and functioning of installations in the collective security system on the territory of participating states is regulated by special agreements.

Article 8

The present treaty does not affect any rights and commitments under other bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements currently in force and concluded by the participating states with other states, and it is not directed against third countries.

The present treaty does not affect the participating states' right to individual and collective defense against aggression in accordance with the UN Charter.

The participating states pledge not to conclude international agreements that are incompatible with the present treaty.

Article 9

Any questions arising between the participating states in connection with the interpretation or application of any provision of the present treaty will be resolved jointly in the spirit of friendship, mutual respect, and mutual understanding.

Amendments to the present treaty may be incorporated on the initiative of one or several of the participating states and adopted on the basis of mutual agreement.

Article 10

The present treaty is open to all interested states which share its aims and principles.

Article 11

The present treaty is concluded for five years with a subsequent renewal.

Any of the participating states has the right to withdraw from the present treaty if it notifies the other parties of its intention at least six months in advance and fulfills all the commitments resulting from withdrawal from the present treaty.

The present treaty is subject to ratification by each of the signatory states in accordance with its constitutional procedures. The ratification documents will be handed to the Government of the Republic of Byelarus, which is thus being appointed depositary.

The present treaty comes into force immediately after the ratification documents have been submitted for safekeeping by the participating states which have signed it.

Done in the City of Tashkent 15 May 1992 in one authentic copy in the Russian language. The authentic copy is kept in the archives of the Government of the Republic of Byelarus, which will send certified copies to the states which have signed the present treaty.

Moldovan Situation

Foreign Ministers Issue Statement on Dniester

LD2405135292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1232 GMT 24 May 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon, 24 May—The foreign ministers of Moldova, Russia, Romania, and Ukraine, who are attending the Lisbon international conference on aid to the new independent states of the CIS, today held another working meeting to examine the situation in the Dniester region. The two previous meetings took place in April of this year in Chisinau.

In a conversation with a correspondent of ITAR-TASS, Russia's Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said the decision to take this opportunity to together examine the situation in the region was due to the fact that the state of affairs there "leaves much to be desired."

Speaking of Romanian claims that there are Russian military advisers in the Dniester region, Andrey Kozyrev stressed that "there simply aren't any there. But if generals like Makashov are going to be in charge there,

we will inevitably go the way of Yugoslavia." This means that first there will be montrous destruction, and then we will face the necessity of a peaceful settlement in any case, but at too high a price, said the minister. Andrey Kozyrev did not exclude the possibility that, at the end of his working trip to Bosnia-Hercegovina, he might visit the Dniester region.

Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase also thinks that "the situation in the region continues to get worse." He called the presence of the 14th Army in the region—what, in his opinion, was a "destabilising factor"—as one of the main problems. In Romania itself, the minister said in a conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent, there were two approaches toward resolving the crisis: constructive—by way of dialogue, democratic and peaceful solutions taking into consideration current realities—and conservative—which do not meet the interests of any of the sides.

In a joint statement, the foreign ministers of Moldova, Russia, Romania, and Ukraine spoke in favor of a number of urgent measures, which include:

—strict observance of a cease-fire,

—return of armored vehicles to the 14th Army,

—return of all military formations and equipment to places of deployment,

—guaranteeing security of the Dubossary hydroelectric power station and other centers providing vital needs,

—continuation of sending missions of military observers to places of confrontation.

The ministers instructed a mixed commission to urgently prepare a report on further steps on the settlement in the region.

Transcaucasus

Gas Supply Cut; Consequences Examined

LD2505202392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1700 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] Here is some information about the situation in the Transcaucasian republics in connection with the suspension of gas supplies.

The tragedy near the village of Kehvi, where dozens of women, children, and elderly people have died, influenced the decision of an extraordinary session of the North Ossetian SSR Supreme Soviet. The Georgian Military Highway, through which goods of the national economy from the CIS countries are delivered to Transcaucasia, has been completely closed. The checking of all types of transport has been intensified on all by-pass roads in North Ossetia. At the same time, the compressor stations in Mozdok and Vladikavkaz on the main Transcaucasian gas pipeline which supplies Georgia with fuel have been shut down.

Here are reports by ITAR-TASS correspondents from Georgia and Armenia on the consequences.

Tbilisi—The production of bread was significantly reduced in Georgia today. The production of cement, mineral fertilizers, and other products at enterprises working on natural gas have been stopped. Now, where possible, we are transferring production to fuel oil, Levan Gegeshidze, chairman of the Georgian State Gas Concern, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent. First of all, it affects enterprises providing life-support systems for the population—bakeries and power stations. The blockade will hit ordinary people most, he stressed, and not just in Georgia, but also in Armenia which receives gas via the same pipeline.

Yerevan—Today Armenian housewives used electric stoves to cook dinner, but only on if there was power. Gas reserves are almost exhausted, an ITAR-TASS correspondent was told at the central control organization of the Armgazprom production association. In addition, all three branches of the gas pipeline via Azerbaijan still remain idle. Thermal power stations working on gas are the basis of the Armenian power industry.

According to (Martsekaram Tsikanyan), chief controller at Armglavenergo, a number of power units have already been switched off and some have been transferred to reserve fuel oil and are working at a quarter of their capacity.

As throughout last winter, in accordance with a decision of the government, a fan-like schedule for switching off electricity is being operated. Electricity supplies are being stopped in turn for 6 hours at a time and twice in 24 hours to all quarters of Yerevan and in all rayons of Armenia—in dwellings and enterprises alike. Hospitals, bakeries, and major industrial enterprises are excepted.

An Armenian delegation is leaving Yerevan for Vladikavkaz today. It is headed by Vigen Chitechiyan, minister of state of the republic. Representatives of the parliament and government of Armenia will hold talks in order to resume gas supplies.

Media

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 23 May

LD2305064992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0457 GMT 23 May 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 23 TASS—Undeclared wars in the former Soviet Union, the problem of the Crimea, and the need for the development of Russia's Armed Forces are the leading topics in today's Moscow-based newspapers.

PRAVDA, in a chief editor's article, points out that such wars "are useful for all those who dreamt about a collapse of the Soviet Union and about the weakening—political, economic and military—of this Eurasian state".

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR), commenting on conflicts that have become aggravated in the former Soviet republics, calls for drawing a lesson from the "Yugoslav experience".

"The bloodshed in Croatia where attempts have been made to decide, by force of arms, who should be the master of the Serb-inhabited areas in the republic, is not it the Yugoslav kind of Karabakh?", the newspaper writes.

"And, finally, the bleeding Bosnia and Hercegovina, where the Army has found itself drawn into clashes between Moslem and Serbian groups. Is not it the prototype of the worst development of events in the Dniester region?" KRASNAYA ZVEZDA queries.

PRAVDA, pointing to mounting tension on the Armenian-Turkish border, recalls the recent statement in Moscow by Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander-in-chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), that "a threat of a third world war would arise as a result of a foreign intervention in the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan".

Commenting on Russia's "power-political diplomacy" with regard to republics of the former Soviet Union, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA points out that "Russia's overall political course remains the same—according to the principle 'to give a slap in the face and then make a curtsy'—and assumes the following next phase: 'yet another slap in the face'.

Apparently, the Russian parliament came to regard the May 21 resolution, which disavows the 1954 act of the transfer of the Crimea to Ukraine, as not enough", the newspaper notes.

On Friday [22 May] the members of the Russian parliament also adopted a statement addressed to the parliament of Ukraine, expressing doubt as to the true intentions "of some of the CIS founders" who seek to break it up, the newspaper adds.

Touching upon the same document, TRUD newspaper reports that the statement would introduce "new complexities" to the already difficult Russo-Ukrainian relations.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, with the Crimea in mind, has called for preventing "a flare up of nationalist feelings in those areas were matters have not yet gone to the lengths of direct clashes".

"It is now vitally necessary that all independent states which get up-to-date weapons at their disposal, join the Tashkent agreement on collective security," the newspaper maintains.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA report Friday's news conference given by Russian defence minister, General of the Army Pavel Grachev, who explained some general principles for the development of Russian Armed Forces.

The newspapers single out his remarks that the Armed Forces of Russia "will be small in size but highly mobile and equipped with high-precision weapons. The Soviet Union had, and Russia has now, "high-precision weapons that are up to and sometimes excel American ones," Major-General V. Slipchenko, a military analyst, said.

Other important topics in today's newspapers include the text of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's Decree "On Raising the Amounts of Social Allowances and Compensatory Payments in 1992", aimed at enhancing the social protection of families with children and other low-incomed groups of the population, and the visit by Polish President Lech Walesa to Russia.

Newspapers point out that Walesa highly appreciated the adoption of a joint statement condemning totalitarialism.

Commentators believe that the statement, which has the nature of a compromise, is meant to reassure Polish nationalists who demanded recognition of Russia's responsibility for injustices done to the Poles in the past.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 26 May

LD2605064992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0424 GMT 26 May 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 26 ITAR-TASS—The leading article published by the Moscow based NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA is entitled "The Constitutional Court of Russia Begins Inquiry Into Yeltsin's Decrees Banning the Communist Party." According to the newspaper, the appeal launched by supporters of the Communist Party says that the Russian president exceeds his powers in his decrees.

The defendants represented by Sergey Shakhray, the Russian state adviser, focus on the concept that the Communist Party served as a mechanism for the formation and implementation of power by means of merging with state structures.

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA expressed the conviction that the Constitutional Court of Russia would acknowledge illegitimacy of presidential decrees and reinstate the rights of the Communist Party, but the newspaper doubts the possibility that the Party would be reinstated. The newspaper believes that after the hearings on the issue are over the Constitutional Court will discuss whether the Communist Party complies with the Constitution.

Pending the session of the Constitutional Court, the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper published an article by a group of scientists alleging that President Yeltsin issued decrees in violation of the Constitution, many Russian and international laws.

"A ban on the Communist Party should be lifted though we realise that it cannot be restored in its former form," Roy Medvedev, former Soviet dissident and the current

co-chairman of the Socialist Workers Party said in an interview with the PRAVDA newspaper.

The KOMSOMOLYSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper publishes a message of greeting by Boris Yeltsin to a meeting of entrepreneurs which opens in Moscow on Tuesday [26 May]. The newspaper was among the organisers of the forum. The experience gained by Russia which had achieved success abroad, would help the Russian economy to more effectively integrate into the world economic organism and sooner join the "civilised" market, the message said.

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper, commenting on the signing of a protocol on the implementation of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty signed by the United States and the four former Soviet republics in Lisbon, said that the dispute on the nuclear heritage of the former Soviet Union seems to be over thanks to the efforts by the United States which, unlike Moscow, can protect its national interests.

The newspaper TRUD writes that one of the main problems facing leaders of the former Soviet republics is to choose a partner for joint defence. The TRUD newspaper points out a real competition has developed for the influnce on Central Asian republics. The newspaper is skeptical about the treaty on collective security signed in Tashkent, as, accordibg to the newspaper, it has a declarative character, has no reliable mechanism for its implementation and was signed only by five republics.

The KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper carries an interview with Sergey Stankevich, the Russian state adviser, who advocates the creation of a powerful Russian state. Stankevich looks upon the future of Russia as a state which "will give priority to good will and consent. But it should be stern when madness begins. Today, Russia is powerless and does not display a strong will even compared to her Commonwealth neighbours, and its foreign policy is characterised by a lack of power and is often confined to rituals," Stankevich said.

Newspapers highlight the developments in the "hot spots" of the former Soviet Union. The situation in the Dniester region remains tense and both conflicting sides have little hope for the settlement of the conflict by means of negotiations, the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA pointed out publishing a thorough account of the situation in the Dniester region.

According to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, Romania daily delivers to Moldova from three to five carriages of military equipment and ammunition, and over 40 tanks have already been stationed in one of the villages in the conflict area.

The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper reports that the security service of the Dniester region possesses information that Moldovan President Mircea Snegur has endorsed the plan for military intervention in the Dniester region.

According to the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, Ukrainian volunteers from nationalistic organisations are fighting on the left bank of the Dniester. Moldova, which has accused the Russian 14th Army of aggression against Moldova, can bring the same charges against Ukraine, the newspaper said.

Russian state adviser Sergey Stankevich in the abovementioned interview criticised Moscow for the position it has assumed towards the conflict saying that "we cannot determine our position towards our compatriots outside Russia disgracefully long. We have shown the same shameful and illogical attitude to the developments in the Dniester region," Stankevich said. Stankevich believes Russia should make it clear that it will not put up with the settlement of the conflict by force.

The PRAVDA newspaper carries a number of articles devoted to the Azeri-Armenian conflict. Tamerlan Karayev, deputy chairman of the Azeri parliament said to the PRAVDA newspaper that the People's Front coming to power will decisively affect combat operations and I think we shall be able to mobilise all the forces in the republic to rebuff the aggressor.

Commenting on the statement on Nagorno-Karabakh made by the United Nations, the PRAVDA newspaper said that for the first time the North Atlantic alliance had demonstrated demarche towards the military and political situation on the territory of the former Soviet Union. The newspaper believes the move will lead to a dangerous international escalation of the conflict, taking into account the alliance's tremendous powers.

Commenting on the visit of Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel to Moscow, PRAVDA pointed out that strong pressure was being exercised on Demirel by right-wing forces in Turkey urging military intervention in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic.

Commenting on the situation in Ukraine, the RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspaper writes that we are witnessing not merely national, but deeply nationalistic motives determining the establishment of the Ukrainian Army. The newspaper believes that the processes is guided by the Ukrainian officers' council which pursues its own interests in personnel reshuffling which, in fact, is a "clean up" among officers.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA writes that ideas are advocated in Ukraine that the Ukrainian Army should have no more than 25 per cent of commanding officers of non-Ukrainian origin, while Russians make up 80 per cent of the officers' corps consisting of three "privatised" Ukrainian military districts.

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA reports that a group of terrorists was seized in the city of Groznyy preparing an assasination of Chechen leader Dzokhar Dudayev.

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper carries a statement made by the Russian Defence Ministry press centre which denies recent reports by the Moscow-based IZVESTIYA newspaper alleging that a Soviet military aircraft carrying two nuclear bombs aboard crashed in the Sea of Okhotsk in 1976. Neither in 1976, nor before that, Soviet strategic aircraft patrolling airspace had nuclear bombs on board, officials from the Russian Defence Ministry said.

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carried an interview with Estonian Prime Minist Tiit Vahi who said he supported the economic cooperation between Estonia and Russia.

Changes in the Commonwealth countries have created reliable prospects for the development of bilateral relations, the TRUD newspaper quoted Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari as saying. The Mexican president also described transformations underway in Mexico.

International Affairs

Yeltsin Holds Talks With Kazakhstan President

Treaty Signed

LD2505172292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1645 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow May 25 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin and President of Kazakhstan Nazarbayev on Monday [25 May] signed a treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance.

The sides agreed that the two countries will form a united military and strategic zone and will jointly use the military bases, test sites and other military infrastructure. They agreed to recognize the borderline existing between the two countries.

Russia and Kazakhstan promised to accomplish equal and mutually beneficial economic and scientific cooperation with the purpose of forming a united economic zone. Through rendering each other the most favoured nation trade status the sides will coordinate their efforts in economic reforms.

The two presidents signed an agreement on the joint use of the Baykonur cosmodrome.

Presidents Make Speeches on Treaty

LD2505191892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1520 GMT 25 May 92

[Speeches by Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev at the Kremlin in Moscow on 25 May—recorded]

[Text] [Yeltsin] Russia and Kazakhstan, not in words but through their interaction, consistently (?act in) the interests of the peoples of their states and do not try to embroil their citizens in internal problems (?but together) [words indistinct].

Second, Kazakhstan and Russia consistently hold the opinion that neither border barriers nor a violent political style, but rather the development of cooperation between them, making use of the richness of our ties for mutual well-being, is the best path for strengthening their own states.

Third, Russia and Kazakhstan, [word indistinct] upon the centuries-old commonwealth, are defining new paths, but after all, neither does that prevent them from strengthening bilateral relations or from developing (?stable), good-neighborly ties.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen! The treaty signed today opens up new (?approaches) in relations between Russia and Kazakhstan. In its content and scale it outstrips the treaties and agreements that were concluded between the young, sovereign states of the former Union. One cannot, after all, [words indistinct] all the forces capable of developing human contacts, of hindering any encroachment at all upon people's rights on national grounds.

The border between Russia and Kazakhstan today, first of all, for citizens is, was, and will in the future, be transparent.

[Nazarbayev] We became an independent state and that required the signing of a new treaty meeting internationally accepted norms. Russia and Kazakhstan have always spoken of building civilized relations in the conditions of the disintegration of the former USSR and of preserving the economic space in the period of crisis, and called upon other states of the former Soviet Union—and now members of the CIS—to do that.

Kazakhstan and Russia remain true to their positions. We appreciate the strategic and geopolitical significance of our territories, and we proceed from the principle of the need for joint defense and the impermissibility of the hostility of our peoples toward each other.

Kazakhstan and Russia think that the independence and sovereignty of each side should be reliably defended and the legitimate rights of people to equality before the law should be observed.

We think we are setting a good example for other CIS states in solving all questions through talks in the interests of all states.

[Moscow INTERFAX in English at 1909 GMT on 25 May reports: "About defence cooperation both Presidents voiced the hope that some day the day would come when nuclear arms can be done away with altogether. Nazarbayev said that each state had its understanding of nuclear security. For that reason we concluded a treaty of security in Tashkent opening a nuclear umbrella over all signatories.

"The Press-Secretary of the Russian President, Vyacheslav Kostikov has made for IF [INTERFAX] a special commentary to the Russian-Kazakh treaty. "The document signed is a kind of political test site, verifying philosophy and practicing the tactics of relations between independent states, that have emerged on the ruins of the communist regime."]

Further Presidential Comments

OW2505192992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1909 GMT 25 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] After they signed the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between Russia and Kazakhstan, the presidents of the two countries made brief statements.

President Yeltsin said that Russia and Kazakhstan implemented the interests of their peoples through constructive and consistent cooperations. "Our countries are certain that neither roadblocks on the borders, nor poor tactics in politics, but mutually beneficial cooperation is the surest way of fostering relations. [no closing quotation marks as received] He said relations between Russian and Kazakhstan created a solid basis for relations within the CIS.

President Nazarbayev said that Kazakhstan and Russia were aware of the strategic and geopolitical importance of their territories and their use for joint defence. "I believe that the independence and sovereignty of either side must be reliably protected", Nazarbayev said. He pointed out that both states furnished a good example to other CIS member-states of how to resolve all disputes through talks in the interests of all peoples and states of the Commonwealth.

As he answered questions, the Russian President said that the treaty would certainly have a favorable effect on the relations of Russia and other countries with other CIS member-states. He said the President of Kyrgyzstan Askar Akayev, with whom he met earlier on Monday [25 May], voiced the intention of concluding a similar comprehensive treaty with Russia. "President Yeltsin and I have long sought such civilized relations between out countries. I have always said that only those who want to stay in the Commonwealth should do so. We shouldn't pull anybody into the commonwealth", President Nazarbayev said. We have concluded this treaty at a very difficult time, because we want to give our peoples a normal life.

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Presidents Interviewed on Treaty

LD2505193192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 25 May 92

[Report by correspondent P. Orlov on the signing of the Russian-Kazakhstan treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid at the Kremlin in Moscow on 25 May including interview with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Orlov] [passage omitted] It looks as if this might be the first document since the Belovezhskaya forest [where the original CIS agreement was signed] that will operate partly as an alternative to the CIS.

[Yeltsin] With others, too. For example, today I met with President Askar Akayevich Akayev of Kyrgyzstan. He has already expressed a desire to conclude what he called a comprehensive treaty. That is, it seems to me there will now be many CIS member countries wishing to conclude such bilateral treaties, wide-ranging ones, long-term ones.

[Orlov] But with whom, that is the most difficult question!

[Yeltsin] You understand with whom.

[Nazarbayev] If you like, I have always said that those who want to, should stay in the Commonwealth. Why should we drag people in by their ears? But when anyone is vague, then you end up with a certain dissonance among all. In my view, we are going through a very difficult time at the moment, and we simply need such a treaty.

[Orlov] For people who are viewing with surprise and apprehension the re-emerging borders, often involving shooting, this may be the first gulp of fresh air.

Grachev on Weapons Removal

LD2605033492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 26 May 92

[Text] Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has stated that the presence of nontactical weapons in Kazakhstan is out of the question; they will all be removed to Russia.

Speaking to journalists on the results of yesterday's talks between the Russian and Kazakh presidents, he commented that Russia will establish its own nuclear forces in the future once the START treaty has been carried out. At this moment, Grachev said, all strategic forces are under CIS joint command.

Turkey's Prime Minister Demirel Arrives

Meets Yeltsin, Signs Treaty

LD2505165792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1643 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Postanogov and Vasiliy Tirov]

[Text] Moscow May 25 TASS— A new page was opened in the history of Russian and Turkish people, President Boris Yeltsin said on Monday [25 May] after he and

Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel signed a treaty on basic relations between the two countries.

The treaty put an end "to ideological limitations of the policy of blocs" and gives grounds to say that "Russia and Turkey are not only neighbours and partners, but also friends", the Russian president noted.

Yeltsin highly assessed the Turkish position which "strives to promote the settlement of conflicts in the former Soviet Union and outside it by political means".

The treaty opens new possibilities for direct contacts between various regions of the two countries, as well as a new sphere for joint activities of Russian and Turkish specialists, businessmen, politicians and cultural figures, the Russian president said.

"We shall cooperate not only in economic, social and cultural spheres, but in strengthening world peace as well", Demirel stressed.

He called for turning the Black Sea zone into an area of peace.

The treaty is not directed against any third country and its implementation will promote a better well-being of peoples of the two countries, peace and stability in the region and the world, the two statesmen stressed.

Yeltsin Comments

LD2505201192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Postanogov and Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow, 25 May—The signing of a treaty on the principles of relations between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey has completed the period of the restoration of relations between the two states, and "we are passing on to comprehensive dialogue and cooperation in all the main spheres of life." Russian President Boris Yeltsin announced this at an official dinner in honor of Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel, who is in Moscow on an official visit.

Speaking of the talks that were held in the Kremlin today, Boris Yeltsin noted that "the benevolent and frank tone of the conversation confirms that from now on, Russia and Turkey regard each other as friendly states."

"Our common aim is the swiftest possible cessation of armed confrontation," the Russian president stressed, "and political settlements in centers of tension. This can be achieved only on the basis of a realistic consideration of the interests of all sides, including national minorities." He noted that Russia proceeds from the conviction that peace is not just the absence of war, but also active collaboration and diverse contacts between states and peoples. Boris Yeltsin spoke in support of the Turkish initiative on forming a Black Sea economic cooperation region, with Russia and Turkey destined to become the axis.

Regarding matters of political cooperation, the Russian president noted that the thorough dialogue between Russia and Turkey is capable of having a positive influence on many processes in the modern world. There are opportunities for close cooperation within the framework of the CSCE, and Russia and Turkey could play the role of "bridges between West and East" in ensuring strategic stability from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

Boris Yeltsin welcomed Turkey's active role in helping the young states of Central Asia, and called for Russia and Turkey to act not as rivals but as partners in the region in the future.

The Russian president expressed the conviction that "the new period in our relations that has been opened by signing a treaty on relations between our countries will bring genuine good to the peoples of Turkey and Russia."

Demirel on Relations, Conflicts

LD2605014192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1806 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Postanogov and Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow, 25 May—Russian-Turkish relations have a rich history and deep roots. There have been ups and downs in the 500 years of history they have in common, but periods of peace and cooperation have always predominated. So stated Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel at a dinner given in his honor at the Kremlin by the Russian Government.

In the opinion of Suleyman Demirel, relations between the two countries have entered a new age and they will advance. Cooperation must assume the character of a network of comprehensive and all-embracing ties which, within the framework of the new understanding of partnership, should bring specific benefits to both countries. The treaty that has been signed on the bases for relations is evidence that the sides have the necessary political will to achieve this, noted the Turkish prime minister.

According to Suleyman Demirel, Turkey and Russia have the joint task of keeping the peace and maintaining stability in the region and throughout the world.

Another factor which unites Russia and Turkey is that both countries are bridges between the continents of Europe and Asia. Therefore, cooperation between the sides is not only important from Europe's point of view, but also from those of the Near and Middle East and Asia.

The Turkish prime minister expressed the conviction that Russia and Turkey will jointly assume responsibility

for transforming the Black Sea basin, located as it is in the center of Eurasia, into a zone of democracy, peace, prosperity, cooperation, and solidarity.

According to Suleyman Demirel, Turkey is making vigorous efforts to stop the bloodshed in Nagorno-Karabakh and Bosnia-Hercegovina.

The "aggressive actions" initiated by Armenia against neighboring Azerbaijan "have taken on disturbing proportions" and represent "a serious threat to peace in the region", believes the Turkish prime minister. He called on the world community to act in recognition of the responsibility it bears to take the necessary measures so that such principles as pluralistic democracy, the supremacy of law, the observance of human rights, and the refusal to use force or the threat of force will not be eroded just as a new world order is being created.

In conclusion, Suleyman Demirel expressed the hope that bilateral contacts will continue on a regular basis. We will be pleased to welcome President Boris Yeltsin to Turkey in a very short time, he said.

Demirel on Karabakh Peace Talks

LD2605084192 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 26 May 92

[Text] The prime minister of Turkey, Suleyman Demirel, has told a news conference in Moscow that new talks between Armenia and Azerbaijan on Nagorno-Karabakh, originally scheduled for the end of next month, are due to be held on Thursday [28 May]. A delegation of Nagorno-Karabakh will attend the talks but will not participate directly.

The Russian president, Boris Yeltsin, and the Turkish prime minister have agreed on setting up a hot line between the capitals of their states to maintain permanent contact.

Mr. Suleyman Demirel, who is in Moscow on an official visit, has signed a treaty on the principles of bilateral relations with Russia.

Talks with Gaydar Begin

LD2605090792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0745 GMT 26 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Vasiliy Titov and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS—Talks began in the Kremlin today between visiting Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel and Russia's First Vice-Premier Yegor Gaydar in an atmosphere of hope. "The Russian side is satisfied on the whole with the fact that despite the numerous difficulties faced by Russia, cooperation with Turkey is developing successfully," Gaydar told journalists before the talks began.

Gaydar and Demirel are expected to cover a wide range of practical matters relating to the further development of mutually beneficial trade and economic relations between Turkey and Russia.

Talks with Khasbulatov Begin

TA2605105592 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 1000 GMT 26 May 92

[Text] Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel has said that the civilized world should be able to resolve its conflicts through peaceful means. Demirel, currently on an official visit to Moscow, met with Russian Deputy Premier Yegor Gaydar and Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet. Ertugrul Bulent Danaci reports from Moscow:

On the second day of his visit to Russia, Demirel met with Gaydar at the Kremlin and conferred with him for approximately one and a half hours. Later, he met with Khasbulatov.

During the meeting, Khasbulatov expressed the Russian Supreme Soviet's satisfaction over the increased contacts and relations between the two countries. Noting that in recent years Turkey has undertaken a great economic leap and that its political influence is also growing, Khasbulatov remarked that the parliament supports President Boris Yeltsin's determination to develop Turkish-Russian relations.

Demirel said that the world has now entered a more secure atmosphere of peace. Expressing deep regret over the conflicts and clashes in the region, Demirel declared: We are against bloodshed and the use of force. The civilized world must certainly be able to resolve its conflicts through peaceful means. Demirel expressed great satisfaction over his contacts in the Russian Federation and said that a new era in bilateral relations has begun. The prime minister concluded by saying that the agreement signed between Russia and Turkey will provide a more sound foundation for bilateral relations.

Demirel is now attending a luncheon hosted in his honor at the residence of the Turkish Embassy in Moscow.

Further on Kozyrev's Visit to Lisbon

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD2205232392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2220 GMT 22 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon, 23 May (ITAR-TASS)—The talks with my Russian colleague have been productive. We discussed a broad range of matters, above all the situation on the continent of Europe, particularly in Yugoslavia, Portugal's Foreign Minister Joao de Deus Pinheiro said.

The heads of the diplomatic departments of Portugal and Russia met the press at the end of their bilateral talks. Andrey Kozyrev arrived in Portugal on an official

visit on the evening of 21 May. According to Pinheiro, the sides also discussed the situation in the "hot spots"—Nagorno-Karabakh, the Dniester region—and exchanged views on possible ways of solving the crises. We touched on the question of preparations for the meeting of heads of state and government of the member countries of the CSCE, which will be held in Helsinki early in July, the minister continued. We also discussed bilateral relations.

In reply to a question from an ITAR-TASS correspondent, the Portuguese foreign minister said that today highly favorable opportunities exist for the development of the traditional Portuguese-Russian links in a wide variety of spheres of culture and science, economics and trade, and in social fields. He noted that at the present time a whole package of bilateral agreements has been prepared, which will be signed in the very near future, during his forthcoming visit to Russia before the end of the year.

The Portuguese minister expressed a high opinion of Russia's practical peacemaking role in solving crisis problems, notably in Yugoslavia. He noted that such a role for Russia was predetermined by "many of that country's historical features", and advocated coordinating the efforts of all states of the CSCE and of the world community in resolving the conflict in Yugoslavia.

In a reference to the Lisbon international conference on aid for the independent states of the CIS, he noted that since the first such meeting in Washington, a certain time has elapsed. In Russia, he said, radical economic reforms are at present being carried out, and the conference will form a practical assessment of the work done during that period. It is necessary to understand and decide what remains to be done, and how these new independent states can realistically be helped.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told journalists that he intends to continue his mission in the allied republic of Yugoslavia and the republics of the former SFRY after the Lisbon conference. "If the military situation and weather permit, and there is no repetition of what happened just recently, when I was forced to turn back when halfway there because of bad flying weather, said the minister, I shall certainly go to Sarajevo." The minister said that the urgent task today is to stop the bloodshed and the internecine conflict in that country.

Meets With Prime Minister

LD2305154292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1330 GMT 23 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon, 23 May—At his residence today, Portuguese Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva received Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev who is here on an official visit. Greeting the guest, Cavaco Silva stressed that "Portugal is glad to see the first Russian foreign minister, particularly one who speaks perfect Portuguese." The Portuguese prime minister noted the importance of this visit, especially in association with the international conference on aid to new independent CIS states which opens in Lisbon this afternoon. He expressed hope that in the near future he would be able to visit Russia.

During the conversation, the two sides discussed a wide range of issues connected with further development and diversification of Russian-Portuguese relations, primarily in the economic field. An exchange of opinions on topical problems of the European continent and the world took place.

Immediately after the conversation with the Portuguese prime minister, a meeting between Andrey Kozyrev and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Muhammad Musa took place.

Meets With President

LD2405003192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2355 GMT 23 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Lisbon, 24 May—Portuguese President Mario Soares met Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, here on an official visit, at the presidential palace on 23 May. During the meeting a range of issues concerning the development of Russo-Portuguese relations were discussed. Opinions were also exchanged on the current situation in Europe, particularly the continent's flashpoints, and current international issues. The Portuguese president voiced his satisfaction over the first visit to Lisbon by a Russian foreign minister and the opinion that prospects are good for the further development of friendly ties and cooperation between Russia and Portugal.

Kozyrev Resumes Yugoslav Visit, Meets Officials

Arrives in Ljubljana

LD2505014292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0057 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Ljubljana, 25 May—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev arrived in the capital of Slovenia from Lisbon today.

Ljubljana is the second stage of the Russian minister's working visit to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and the former republics of the SFRY. Andrey Kozyrev visited the FRY (consisting of Serbia and Montenegro) earlier and also attempted to get to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia-Hercegovina. However, he was forced to return to Belgrade due to bad weather and

then suspended his visit to speak at the Russian Supreme Soviet, which was discussing the issue of the Crimea.

During this stage of his trip, A. Kozyrev plans to make fact-finding visits to Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Hercegovina, and Macedonia and to offer his services as mediator in the search for a cease-fire, a halt to the bloodshed, and a peaceful settlement to the Yugoslav crisis. The Lisbon international conference on aid to the newly independent CIS states, which has just ended, debated the situation in the former Yugoslavia and adopted a special resolution.

Holds Talks With Slovene President

LD2505110692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1026 GMT 25 May 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Ljubljana, 25 May—Today, Janez Drnovsek, president of the government of Slovenia, received Andrey Kozyrev, minister of foreign affairs of Russia, who arrived in Ljubljana on the evening of 24 May, on a working visit.

A broad range of questions in the sphere of Russian-Slovene relations and prospects for their development in light of the protocol signed on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two states, were discussed during the conversation.

An exchange of opinions on the situation in the region also took place. A. Kozyrev briefed J. Drnovsek on the results of the Lisbon conference on aid to the newly independent states of the CIS, at which a special resolution on the situation in the former Yugoslavia was adopted.

Meets Foreign Minister Rupel

LD2505131792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1126 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Ljubljana, 25 may—Russian-Slovenian talks were held here today between the leaders of the foreign ministries of Russia and Slovenia, Andrey Kozyrev and Dimitrij Rupel. The Russian minister arrived here on the evening of 24 May from Lisbon, where he attended the international conference on aid to the newly independent states of the CIS.

Welcoming A.Kozyrev, D.Rupel noted the significance of the first visit of a Russian foreign minister to Slovenia, and proposed that they should discuss at their talks the problems of developing bilateral relations in the political and economic spheres, and also examine the situation in the former republics of the SFRY.

A protocol on the establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and Slovenia was signed on the same day in the Crystal Hall of the Presidium of Slovenia. The document was signed by Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation Andrey Kozyrev and Foreign Minister of Slovenia Dimitrij Rupel. Speaking to journalists at the conclusion of the ceremony, D. Rupel noted the important significance of this document for the development of links between the two states. He stressed the traditionally friendly relations of cooperation between Slovenia and Russia, which have existed for a long time in the most varied areas—political, economic, and cultural, as well as the enormous contribution which Russian culture made to raising the cultural potential of Slovenia. The Slovenian foreign minister expressed the hope that relations between the two states after the signing of this treaty will rise to a qualitatively new level.

In a conversation with journalists, A. Kozyrev said that he attaches particular importance to the signed document, particularly in connection with the situation which has arisen at present in the region. He reported that his visit to Slovenia is a continuation of the working trip around the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the states of the former republics of the SFRY to acquaint himself with the state of affairs, and to study Russia's role as an intermediary in the settlement of the Yugoslav crisis. Earlier he visited Serbia and Montenegro, and attempted to travel to Bosnia-Hercegovina, but was forced to cut short his trip because of bad weather. The Russian minister noted that he plans to continue this visit to Sarajevo, which has become one of the centers of bloody confrontation, and also to visit Croatia and Macedonia. At the end of the visits, Russia intends to submit its proposals and ideas on a peace settlement through political means of the crisis in former Yugoslavia.

The minister of foreign affairs of Slovenia noted that he values highly the intermediary peacemaking efforts of Russia in the cause of achieving a political settlement to the situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina. This problem is now causing extreme concern and anxiety among the world community, and therefore, it is necessary to undertake all necessary efforts to end the shooting and bloodshed in Bosnia-Hercegovina in accordance with the provisions of the CSCE, and then to resolve all other internal problems of the region, D. Rupel stated.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Azerbaijan

PM2505131192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 May 92 p 2

[Statement from Russian Ministry of Security Public Relations Center: "Security Ministry Is Empowered To State...."]

[Text] On 22 May, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA published a comment entitled "Confession of a Suicide" in which, citing a Baku radio broadcast, it announced that Russian Federation Security Minister V. Barannikov and foreign intelligence service director Ye. Primakov

"with a view to reviving Mutalibov's government" allegedly gave secret instructions to R. Sadykhov, Azerbaijan deputy minister of national security. Previously this information was also published in IZVESTIYA.

In this connection A. Chernenko, chief of the Russian Federation Ministry of Security Public Relations Center, has stated that the Russian special services have had no contact of this kind with the above-mentioned R. Sadykhov or with the Azerbaijani special services as a whole. The Baku radio report reproduced by the Russian mass media is of a provocative nature and in his opinion, is aimed at aggravating the already complex situation in the region.

[signed] Russian Ministry of Security Public Relations Center.

Foreign Ministry Representative Gives Briefing

LD2205151592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1409 GMT 22 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Oleg Polovko]

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS—Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Sergey Yastrzhembskiy made a statement on Friday [22 May] at a briefing on the latest events in connection with the city of Lachin situated on the border between Nagorno-Karabakh and Nakhichevan, which resulted in new human deaths and additional tension in the entire region.

Russia cannot agree with the capture of Lachin, as well as with attacks (if they really took place) by armed groups on the Nakhichevan territory bordering Armenia. No attendant circumstances give the right to a state to annex a foreign territory, the spokesman stressed. Nobody can count on Russia's support for such illegal actions, Yastrzhembskiy continued.

He called on all the sides involved in the conflict "to cease fire and sit at the negotiating table", adding that Russia is ready "to render intermediary services in stopping the bloodshed and searching for a political settlement of the crisis".

Making a statement on the latest events in Thailand, which resulted in the loss of human life, the spokesman noted that the situation in Thailand is, undoubtedly, that country's domestic affair. Nevertheless, he added, Russia has no double standard in its approach to democracy and human rights, no matter what country it is.

The spokesman expressed hope that "wisdom will prevail in Bangkok, and ways will be found for a peaceful settlement of the present problems".

Commenting on some press reports concerning a statement by Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev on the stay of Russian troops on the Kuril Islands, Yastrzhembskiy pointed out that President Yeltsin stressed the desire of the Russian Federation to cut the troop strength on the Kurils at the recent meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Watanabe.

This desire has nothing to do with contacts on territorial demarcation and is prompted by "general considerations to cut our redundant military presence", the spokesman emphasised.

The question is now being studied on troops' cuts and their complete withdrawal from the South Kurils, he added.

Asked about the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic area, the spokesman said that the Russian side continues to insist on linking this problem with the provision of all social guarantees to servicemen to be pulled out from the Baltic countries to Russia.

Turning to the question on the Crimea, the spokesman noted that the position of the Russian Foreign Office on this issue remains intact: The discussion of this problem and the position of the Russian parliament on the legal validity of the 1954 documents "do not mean the laying of territorial claims to Ukraine".

The spokesman said that under an understanding reached with the Argentinian side, Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy would go on a working visit to Argentina between June 8-11 at the invitation of the Argentinian Government.

Kurils Statements 'Wrenched Out Of Context'

PM2505113592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 May 92 First Edition p 1

[ITAR-TASS report: "Statement by Russian Foreign Ministry Representative"]

[Text] In view of the comments by certain mass media organs, including foreign ones, on the statement by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev regarding the question of the presence of Russian troops on the Kuril Islands, we would like to state the following:

It is well known that at his recent meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Watanabe, President Yeltsin declared Russia's desire to reduce the number of Russian servicemen on the South Kuril Islands. This desire is in no way related to the contacts on territorial demarcation, but is dictated by general considerations regarding the reduction of our surplus military presence.

We also would stress that the president was speaking about future rather than immediate plans. At the present time the question of the reduction of troops and the possible complete withdrawal of servicemen is under study.

We would like to warn against overdramatization of this issue, overdramatization based, moreover, on a misinterpretation of Russian officials' statements wrenched out of context.

Federation Affairs

Yeltsin Warns of Regional Conservative Control

OW2205204392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1904 GMT 22 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Complaints on the Law On Territories and Districts passed by the Russian Parliament rang out Friday [22 May] during a meeting of the Russian President Boris Yeltsin with leaders of the executive power branches of Russian Federation republics and heads of the administrations of territories and districts.

The press service of the Russian President said that many of those present at the meeting felt that the law contradicts the principle of the division of power and practically paralyzes the heads of administrations. The need to develop the resolution of cooperation between heads of local executive branches and the Russian government, and the need to define the status of the heads of administrations was stressed.

Participants at the meeting concluded that the election of heads of administrations in 1992-93 is not permissable. Yeltsin feels that the elections would bring conservative forces to power in the regions, who would organize and would hinder the course of reform.

The formation of the Union of Leaders of the Executive Branches of the Russian Federation was announced at the meeting.

Yeltsin Meets Lawyers, Discusses Party Ban

LD2505174192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1700 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] Moscow May 25 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin today met lawyers, who will represent him in Russia's constitutional court at the forthcoming deliberations on the legality of his decree, banning the Soviet Communist Party.

"There is a growing need in society to know the truth about the Soviet Communist Party and its real role and responsibility for the deepest economic, moral and political crisis into which the country plunged after decades of the Communist Party's rule," Yeltsin said.

Lawyers and experts have gathered lots of materials about the Party's covert activities, participants in the meeting said.

There are enough witnesses and documents, enabling to compare the Communist Party's activities with methods and ideology that were denounced by the world at the Nuremberg process, Yeltsin's Press Secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov said.

Yeltsin Recalls Bills on Legal Practice

OW2205212292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1904 GMT 22 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "IF" [INTERFAX] learned Thursday [21 May] that the President of the Russian Federation recalled drafts of laws on law practice and attorneys presented to the Presidium by Sergey Shakhray. Yeltsin said he was recalling the drafts because they required further analysis in view of the Federative Treaty and ammendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation.

Informed sources say the President made this decision after receiving a letter from Justice Minister Nikolay Fedorov calling the drafts prepared in the bowels of the government legal department "anti-reform", as they artificially limit the right of choice in the profession and may lead to a shortage of legal help for Russian citizens.

Shakhray Resignation Accepted, Reasons Viewed

OW2505164392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1634 GMT 25 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin gave his consent in principle to the Legal Policies Advisor Sergey Shakhray's resignation as of the day he returns from vacation. The statement was contained in a handout issued just before Sergey Shakhray's press conference today. Sergey Shakhray discussed the reasons which made him tender his resignation with Boris Yeltsin on May 25. Different views on the situation, the strategy of and progress in reforms, as well as political and personal differences in the circles close to the President were among them.

Sergey Shakhray believes that "in spite of his adherence to the President's ideas and position, he could not work together with people whose political views and methods ran counter to his own ideas of reforms and the political ethics".

Sergey Shakhray expressed his concern about the fact that a mechanism of retardation slowing down reforms was emerging close to the President. Political differences were producing conflicting decrees and decisions.

Sergey Shakhray will concentrate on working out of bills, supporting of reforms, and on parliamentary and legal activities.

Sergey Shakhray said that the President responded to the news of his resignation calmly and with understanding.

Shakhray said that he would represent the President at the Constitutional Court session on May 26 as a lawyer, not as an official, which is permissible by law. He promised not to make the President pay for that, because

he believed his appearance in this status at the Constitutional Court would be "honorable both professionally and humanely".

Shakhray called the consideration of the request made by a group of deputies to inquire into the constitutionality of Boris Yeltsin's decrees to dissolve the CPSU and confiscate its property alongside the request of the Constitutional Commission Secretary Oleg Rumyantsev possible and reasonable. The latter suggests a motion of constitutionality of the CPSU. The trial designed to discredit the President might turn into another Nuremberg, Sergey Shakhray said.

Those present at the press conference were shown documents from the CPSU archives testifying that the party usurped power, misused government budget and financed Communist and revolutionary organizations, including terrorist ones, abroad.

[Moscow ITAR-TASS in English at 1615 GMT on 25 May adds the following on Shakhray's resignation: "Sergey Shakhray, a Russian president aide who handed in his resignation, said he would continue to work for the presidential team. 'I have no hard feelings. I am not going to oppose the president. I promised him my help and I want to work for the presidential team', he said in an interview published by the 'IZVESTIA' newspaper on Monday [25 May].

"There were two reasons for his resignation. 'Firstly, it was disagreement in political assessment of the situation in the country and measures to improve it', according to Shakhray. Yuriy Petrov, head of the presidential administration, was his major opponent, Shakhray disclosed at a press conference. Secondly, 'I wanted to eliminate the illusion that all decisions of the executive authority in Russia are prepared by Shakhray', he added.

"The resignation has 'in fact taken place', it goes through formalities, according to Shakhray.

"He believes there are no signs of a threat that either the president or the parliament will introduce their authoritarian rule. 'There is a hundred per cent deficit of state power (in Russia). There are remains of (Communist) party power, there are local authorities, sometimes feudal, but there is a sharp deficit of state power', he said.

"The former presidential aid outlined three main directions which the reforms should go along: A 'forced' privatisation, rigid anti-crime activities, a more defined state structure of Russia and the Commonwealth.

"Shakhray, who resigned also as deputy prime minister, said he would concentrate on his work as a member of the parliamentary legal committee. 'I do not believe in multi-party system and I do not intend to either create a party or join any of them. I want to use my professional knowledge to provide legal protection for property rights and entrepreneurship', he said.]

Shakhray Comments on 'Difference of Opinion'

PM2505212592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 May 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Sergey Shakhray, former vice premier and former state counselor, by Sergey Chugayev on 24 May; place not given: "'I Will Work for the President's Team'"—first two paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] Most journalists interpreted the report that a news conference by Sergey Shakhray would be held 25 May in Moscow in the State Legal Administration building as something sensational.

There, it was announced, he would discuss his departure from the president's team, sharing his views on the current political situation in Russia and the prospects for its development, and making known certain documents which he intends to use in the Constitutional Court proceedings to defend the president's positions. The day before this event Shakhray agreed to give an exclusive interview to IZVESTIYA.

[Chugayev] The first question will, of course, be about the reasons for your leaving the president's team. Because it was thought that you were one of the main figures in this team.

[Shakhray] Basically there are two such reasons. The first is a difference of opinion on assessing the political situation in the country and the measures proposed by me to correct it. My position is essentially that there are not even the signs of a threat of an authoritarian regime being established by the president or parliament in Russia at the moment. What we are talking about is a 100-percent shortage of state power. The vestiges of party power exist in Russia, and local power exists, including feudal power. But there is a severe shortage of state power in the country.

My position both in the government and as a state counselor was to act more decisively and more assertively in three areas: changing relations in the sphere of ownership—"forcible" privatization, imposing order in the sphere of the struggle against crime and corruption, and clarifying positions on questions of the national-state structure of Russia and the CIS. I also believe that the reforms' success largely depends on whether almost 18 million Russian bureaucrats are going to support them. State employees must be made to have a vested material interest in the success of privatization and private farming—they must be guaranteed a share of state ownership and provided with effective social protection.

I think that a more decisive position on the part of the president, government, and Supreme Soviet in these questions could create the social base of Russian state power. I stress here that there is no state power in Russia today.

Possibly because of this I fell into the category of a radical.

The second reason for my leaving. The president, as head of the executive branch, has the right to get a team together around himself. But a team member has the right to waive or not waive his principles when working in this team. I think it will be more honest both to myself and my electors to dispel the illusion that all the Russian executive branch's decisions are prepared by Shakhray. Unfortunately, for the last several months I have effectively not been participating in the preparation of the most important documents; I have been learning about them from the press. But I am politically responsible for the legal quality of these documents. I was not able to arrange a strict and one-track, so to speak, analysis of all normative acts from the viewpoint of their conformity to legislation. Therefore I do not want to be a screen for the decisions being elaborated by, for instance, Petrov, Lobov, and Skokov.

I want to stress that I have no personal pretensions. I am not going to oppose the president. I promised him help. And I am glad that in the Constitutional Court I will be appearing not as a vice premier or state counselor but simply as citizen Shakhray, who, being a candidate of juridical sciences, has in law the right to represent the president's interests in court. I consider it my duty and honor to defend these interests in these proceedings.

During my last meeting with the president we traded neither insults nor farewell embraces [ni obid ni rastavaniy]. It has so transpired that the president, regardless of whether he is good or bad, is today one of the few pivots of stability for the regime and reform. I will work for this team.

[Chugayev] In what form and in what capacity?

[Shakhray] I am still a member of the parliamentary committee for legislation. This being so, I intend to ask Ruslan Imranovich [Khasbulatov] to allocate me an office—as stipulated for all committee members. I think I will be more effectively engaged in autonomous political and legal activity. In what form I will say later, when I choose. I do not now believe in multipartyism, so I have no desire to create a party or join any party. I want to use my professional qualities to legally defend ownership and enterprise.

[Chugayev] Is it an accident that the words "authoritarian regime" have cropped up several times during our conversation? Obviously you have your own view on the prospects for the development of the political situation in Russia?

[Shakhray] At the moment I would not wish to give an assessment of the political situation in the country and talk about its possible development in the future. As a participant in the proceedings starting in the Constitutional Court, I do not want to supercharge the tension. But I recall what I said about this at the congress: The threat of ethnic patriotism [natsional-patriotizm] is very great in our country. Not patriotism, but specifically ethnic patriotism or fascism, if you like. Why are the reforms in Russia proceeding so arduously and agonizingly? Not everything can be attributed to the mistakes of democrats. All that is very much in the normal run of things. For the time being. Although this does not make things any easier. Will we succeed in avoiding damnation and not sinking into yet another civil war? This is the main danger.

[Chugayev] Do you consider the threat of civil war a real one?

[Shakhray] Yes, very much so. Attempts by ethnic patriots to seize power are all that is needed to start it. Many interesting processes are taking place even in the highest echelons of various state structures. But in principle the recipe for avoiding this threat boils down to a few simple postulates. Chief among them is this: If property really will be shared out now, nobody will be able to take it away later. Therefore the bureaucratic procrastination over privatization lasting almost 18 months is a threat to all the democratic beginnings. We must act and act decisively. [Shakhray ends]

The day before the news conference I was also able to meet with Russian People's Deputy Aleksandr Kotenkov, who was appointed chief of the State Legal Administration by decree of the president a few days ago. He is one of the key figures in the upcoming Constitutional Court proceedings. It could be concluded from the conversation with him that the president's representatives intend to turn the Constitutional Court sessions, at which the conformity of the president's decrees banning CPSU and Russian Communist Party activity with the constitution will be discussed, into a sort of analogue of the Nuremberg proceedings—into a trial of the CPSU. To this end it is proposed to publish a considerable number of documents on CPSU activity which were until recently considered strictly secret.

Some of these documents have already been published in IZVESTIYA. The publications will be continued. Judging from the material that it has been possible to study, discussion will center on the fact that for all the years it was in power the Communist Party maintained its functionaries at the expense of the state budget, at whose expense it also maintained most foreign communist parties, and actively interfered in sovereign states' internal affairs, which even included supporting blatantly terrorist organizations. In a word, it was not a political party in a pure form but a sort of state-political formation of a criminal persuasion, whose activity the president was fully entitled to terminate.

Hearing on CPSU Ban Adjourns Until 7 Jun

OW2605112692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1000 GMT 26 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the Russian Constitutional Court Valeriy Zorkin for the first time wearing the new uniform—a black gown—has told an open session in

Moscow that the court decided to hold single hearings of the inquiry of a group of people's deputies about the legality of the decrees of President Yeltsin disbanding the CPSU and the RCP [Russian Communist Party] and the appeal of the secretary of the constitutional committee Oleg Rumyantsev who suggested outlawing the CPSU and declaring the decrees constitutional. Nine members of the court voted for joint hearings, three against.

As the presidential decrees describe the CPSU and the RCP as unconstitutional organizations, Mr.Zorkin said, it is impossible to discuss the first inquiry without checking the lawfulness of the two parties. The chairman of the court recalled that the latest constitutional amendments give the court the right to pronounce verdicts on the lawfulness of parties without their representatives.

On behalf of the people's deputies who submitted the inquiry Valeriy Zorkaltsev protested against joint hearings. Without representatives of the CPSU or the RCP in court—and the MPs [members of parliament] are not entitled to act as such—the parties actually lose the right to defence. According to the MPs, the decrees should be cancelled in order to let the parties defend themselves. Mr. Zorkaltsev is convinced that the combination of the two hearings has the purpose of relieving the head of state of constitutional responsibility.

Yuriy Slobodkin who signed the inquiry voiced readiness to act as the counsellor for the defence. However, Roy Medvedev, the leader of the Socialist Party that has declared itself the legal successor of the CPSU said Slobodkin has no powers to act in such a capacity.

Sergey Shakhray who represents the president in court has approved the joint hearings, but agreed to the necessity of an at least ten day postponement of the hearings allowing to study both inquiries.

Oleg Rumyantsev did not protest against the postponement. He said that many MPs support his appeal. In an interview for IF [INTERFAX] he spoke strongly against turning the hearings into a new Nuremberg trial because this would only increase social tension.

[Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 1000 GMT on 26 May, in a related report, adds: "We have just received a report stating that following a break, the Constitutional Court has adopted a decision to inform Gorbachev and Ivashko, the official representatives of the CPSU and the Communist Party of Russia, that they are invited to take part in the session of the court set for 7 June 1992."]

Grachev Details Armed Forces Creation 'Concept'

PM2605082592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 May 92 p 1

[Report by Colonel O. Falichev: "Building Russian Army Is Task For All the People. In the Opinion of Army General P. Grachev, Russian Federation Defense Minister, It Will Be Resolved in Stages, on the Basis of New Approaches to the Creation of Force Groupings and the Ideology of Armed Warfare"]

[Text] On 23 May KRASNAYA ZVEZDA reported on the news conference given by Army General P. Grachev, Russian defense minister, at which he set out his concept for the creation of the Russian Federation Armed Forces. Today we will describe in greater detail how the Russian defense minister views Russia's Armed Forces, and what his assessment is of certain recent events in CIS "hot spots."

Building the Armed Forces is one of the central tasks facing Russia. This is not a departmental task but a task for the whole state and the whole people. Why? Its resolution is closely bound up with the implementation of political and socioeconomic reform, the ensuring of a stable atmosphere in society, and the safeguarding of national, collective, and international security. In other words, Russia's fate is indissolubly linked to the formation and strengthening of the Russian Army.

This multifaceted job is having to be carried out under the difficult conditions of socioeconomic and financial crisis, a production slump, and the exacerbation of political and interethnic contradictions in various parts of the former USSR. Many combined and other units under Russian jurisdiction are serving in an atmosphere of unending provocation and attempts by various political groupings to involve the troops in direct armed conflicts. Cases of discrimination against servicemen and criminal infringements of their honor, dignity, and lives are becoming more frequent. "We do not intend to interfere in confrontation between warring parties, but nor will we allow anyone to turn troops stationed on other territories and which are not part of their national armed forces into objects of attack, theft, or chaotic privatization," Army Gen. Grachev resolutely stressed.

What will the Russian Armed forces be like in terms of their composition, level of equipment, and training? It is planned that they will comprise branches of service and combat arms able to ensure the effective resolution of any combat mission and employing modern weapons and means of operation. Transformations will also affect the internal structure of the branches of service. It is planned to implement a fundamentally new approach to the creation of force groupings and, in general, to the ideology of the conduct of armed warfare. In particular, the development of the Ground Forces will move away from the "army-division" set up to a "corps-brigade" set up, with the necessary minimum of compact and effective administrative organs.

Alongside the traditional branches of service (Rocket and Ground Forces, Air Defense Forces, Air Forces, and the Navy, which it is planned to preserve until 1995) there is a need for mobile forces—a new operational

strategic formation of along the lines of the rapid deployment force. These will include airborne assault combined units, military transport and Army aviation, and mobile support services for all arms of service, and will be capable of carrying out their mission in any sector or theater of operations.

But this is in the future. At the moment it is important to preserve and optimize everything we have. Needless to say, taking account of CIS agreements and international commitments. What stages are envisaged?

In the first stage—during 1992—it is planned to virtually recreate the Russian Defense Ministry, General Staff, and other administrative organs, using the base that already exists, and to lay the legal and juridical foundations for the creation and functioning of the Russian Federation Armed Forces.

In the second stage—during 1993-1994—the direct organizational development of the Russian Federation Armed Forces will begin. That is, its combined and other units will be reorganized and force groupings created. At the same time, a system of social guarantees for servicemen will be set up and will begin to be implemented in practice. Main attention will be devoted to the housing problem. Within this time frame it is planned to switch to a mixed system for manning [smeshannaya sistema komplektovaniya] the Armed Forces and to introduce alternative forms of service.

In the third stage (1995-1999) more major structural changes are envisaged, including the reorganization of the Armed Forces' branches of service and the possible reduction of their size.

It is planned to cut the Armed Forces by 700,000 to 2.1 million by 1995, and to 1.5 million by the year 2000. As for technical provision, the main emphasis in this area will be on the real priority of quality. Hence the sharp reduction in volumes of orders for weapons and hardware, and in the number of order-issuing directorates, and the assertion of a competitive basis for research and development and for the production of defense output. In short, Russia should have Armed Forces commensurate with its status as a great power.

What is Army Gen. Grachev's view of certain recent events in CIS "hot spots" and of the changes in the military-political situation? Here are just a few indications. Touching on the Black Sea Fleet problem, for instance, he expressed the idea that the Fleet should remain wholly within the CIS Armed Forces headed by Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov.

The troop withdrawal from the Baltic is necessary, but it should be implemented in a civilized way without being pushed ahead, without any hullabaloo, and without discrimination against servicemen's civil rights. The troops should be withdrawn to prepared and properly equipped camps. If the Baltics are interested in accelerating this process, it should build housing for the troops being withdrawn or allocate the necessary funds, in hard currency too. "I'm not going to withdraw my officers and men to empty fields," Army Gen. Grachev, Russian defense minister, said.

One last point. We are unable to keep the full 7th Army on Armenian territory. Therefore it will be reduced and gradually withdrawn.

'Slighting' of Servicemen Viewed

LD2205200192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 22 May 92

[Text] At a news conference in Moscow today, Defense Minister Grachev was asked many questions, particularly about the status of the 14th Army.

[Correspondent I. Pankov] The defense minister's position on all the issues raised by us journalists was extremely unambiguous. The minister was asked about his attitude toward the attacks on military units and the seizure of weapons.

[Begin Grachev recording] I declare to you that we do not intend to interfere in the confrontation between sides involved in conflict, but I will not permit anyone to turn troops stationed on the territory of other states and not a part of their national armed forces into a target for attacks, misappropriation, and unrestrained privatization. [end recording]

[Pankov] Pavel Grachev added that he will not tolerate the slighting of Russian soldiers, officers, and their families. If required, families subjected to attacks and blackmail will be guarded by tanks.

According to him, the withdrawal of forces from the Baltic states will begin by the end of 1994, after units have been withdrawn from Germany and Poland. This process may be speeded up, if the Baltic states help to solve the problems relating to the troops being withdrawn, including the problem of housing for those leaving the Baltic area.

[Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 1800 GMT on 22 May carries a report on Grachev's news conference, which adds: "Another subject touched upon at the news conference was the withdrawal of troops from the territories of other states. The minister said that the motorized-rifle brigade will leave Cuba by 1993. By 1994, the contingent will pull out of Poland and Germany. At the same time, the withdrawal of troops from Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia will begin. Here, Grachev noted, earlier dates also are possible on condition that the Baltic republics pay in foreign currency for the building of housing for the Russian officers and ensigns who will be leaving their well-appointed quarters in the Baltic region for Russia, where standards are lower."]

Replying to questions, Pavel Grachev emphasized that what he said about a reduction of forces on the Kuril islands was interpreted incorrectly. These actions in no way are connected with relations between Russia and

Japan. These measures are being carried out within the framework of a general reduction of Russia's Armed Forces.

As for the outlook for the construction of the Russian Army, the minister stated that it will be reduced numerically, but its fighting capability and the level of its technical equipment will be enhanced. By the end of the century, 1.5 million officers and men will remain in Russia's Army. Pavel Grachev also advocated the conscription into the Army of young people not aged 18, but 21 years, when the individual becomes more mature.

[Begin Grachev recording] Russia must have armed forces that correspond to its status as a great power. [end recording]

Grachev on New Post, Troop Withdrawals

PM2205104192 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 92 p 1

["Exclusive" interview with Russian Defense Minister Army General Pavel Sergeyevich Grachev by A. Krayniy under "Specially for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA" rubric; place and date not given: "People Are Not Potatoes, and I Will Not Transplant Them Out in the Open Field. Exclusive Interview with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev"—first two paragraphs are KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] From the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA file

Army General Pavel Sergeyevich Grachev. Appointed to post of Russian minister of defense at 2000 hours 18 May 1992. Age—44. Graduated from Ryazan Airborne Troops School and two academies, of which one is a General Staff academy. Was in Afghanistan twice: from 1981 to 1983—as deputy commander and subsequently commander of a paratroop regiment, and from 1985 to 1988 he commanded an airborne division. In August 1991 Grachev, who was commander of airborne troops, refused to storm the "White House."

...Today, his first day in a ministerial post, General Grachev is booked up till late in the evening, which is natural. The adjutant shakes his head at my question: "An interview is out of the question today. But there will be a news conference..." But the words KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA and the involvement of the minister's aides open doors.

[Krayniy] Pavel Sergeyevich, how unexpected was the new appointment for you?

[Grachev] It was completely unexpected. On the morning of the 18th I was attending the president's weekly report, and at 2000 hours I was again summoned to him, and Boris Nikolayevich announced the decree. I conducted my first meeting as a minister yesterday with representatives of public organizations acting in the interests of the Armed Forces, like, for example, the Social Defense Fund for Young Servicemen and Members of their Families.

[Krayniy] Will things not happen in such a way that a reduction in the Army's numbers will exacerbate the situation still further? There is disquiet in the Army, people are tired of the uncertainty.

[Grachev] Well, in the first place the uncertainty has ended. A Russian Army exists, or rather is being created on the basis of the former Soviet Armed Forces. Second, the reduction will not be carried out hurriedly, but gradually, through the end of the present century. It will not only be people in uniform but also civilian specialists who will enter the Russian Ministry of Defense: analysts, scientists, representatives of the military industrial complex, and politicians. The example of Andrey Afanasyevich Kokoshin is revealing. The Russian Army's leadership does not intend to select people according to the dress they wear: a suit or a military uniform. The most important thing is that they are competent, professional, and give Russia devoted service. It is according to these very criteria that we will select the Russian Army's leadership personnel. We are showing preference in the first place to young officers and generals. A special committee under the Security Council will appoint people to all posts on a competitive basis.

[Krayniy] Pavel Sergeyevich, the immediate tasks are clear. But what is happening with the draft?

[Grachev] The draft is proceeding with difficulty. This is also because we have made the medical selection process stricter and many conscripts do not get through it, are not, so to speak, suitable. And then, you know, we are not calling up students; this is understandable. But I cannot agree with deferments for shepherds and metro constructors, for example. Who then is going to defend the homeland?

Starting with the present draft Russians will not serve in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan—these countries are forming their own armies, and we are conducting negotiations with Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan about the status of our troops.

[Krayniy] And what about Transcaucasia?

[Grachev] Ordinary soldiers who have served no less than six months will be sent to Transcaucasia, and only with their written permission. This is the situation today. But we are in general starting to withdraw troops from Azerbaijan and, correspondingly, from Armenia. Our troops are remaining in Georgia for the moment, but, I think, not for very long.

[Krayniy] Do you mean that the Transcaucasus Military District will soon cease to exist?

[Grachev] You must understand that we could leave there tomorrow. But where would we go? People are not potatoes, and I am not going to transplant them out in the open field. Both the Western and Northern Groups

are leaving foreign parts, and the Northwestern Group is leaving the Baltic region; the timetables have everywhere been reduced to the maximum degree. And although we are keeping to them, the builders—foreign ones included—are not doing things in time. There are also problems financing the construction work.

[Krayniy] I understand. Pavel Sergeyevich, a personal question: How did your family react to your appointment?

[Grachev] They didn't; nobody was at home. My wife had to go to Ryazan, and it was my elder boy Sergey's birthday—In June he graduates from the Ryazan Military School—and the younger one, Valeriy, is on active service. He is studying at the Moscow Suvorov Military School. So I heard my family's congratulations over the telephone.

[Krayniy] Pavel Sergeyevich, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA endorses all the warm words and invites you to visit its premises.

[Grachev] Thank you, I will definitely come. I like your newspaper.

Plans for Defense Ministry Restructuring Eyed

PM2505131392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 May 92 p 1

[Article by Colonel O. Falichev: "The Structure of the Russian Armed Forces Will Be Determined by Russia's National Interests"]

[Text] What will the Russian Army be like? This question is certainly of interest to politicians, servicemen, and all Russians. But the problem is not as simple as it may appear and affects a whole series of geopolitical, military, economic, and other issues. According to Lieutenant General Valeriy Manilov, chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces Information Directorate, the situation in which Russia, like all the states of the former USSR in general, has found itself on the threshold of the third millenium is without parallel in history. The destruction of a world power with a deeply integrated economy, transport system, and unified Armed Forces has plunged all the republics of the former USSR into deep economic crisis. This crisis has also affected the Armed Forces. The financing of defense and military science has been severely cut back. The military industry is in a grave condition.

In these conditions it is difficult to talk about any serious structural reorganizations, especially if this concerns changing the branch structure of the Armed Forces. Given the prevailing situation, the main task is to preserve as much as possible what remains of the once-powerful unified Armed Forces, not let the combat readiness and combat efficiency of their basic elements slip, and endeavor to make up for the losses by using those resources which the state is able to allocate to defense at such a difficult time.

The Russian Federation Security Council will very soon get down to finding a consistent solution to the aforementioned problems.

It is also planned to hold a scientific-practical conference dealing with questions of military doctrine, determining Russia's military strategy at the contemporary stage, and validating the legal bases for the creation and functioning of the Russian Federation Armed Forces.

As far as the CIS Joint Armed Forces General Staff is concerned, its basic structures which correspond to the national and defense interests of Russia will switch to the Russian Federation Defense Ministry, retaining, moreover, the basic principles of their activity: centralized command and control and one-man command.

The process of improving Russian military structures and forming the army will be continuous.

Incidentally, certain aspects of the relations between the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command and the Russian Ministry of Defense were touched upon at a news conference, devoted to the results of the Tashkent meeting of heads of state and government, by Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikpov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces. In his opinion, the Russian Federation defense minister will participate in the work of the Council of CIS Defense Ministers on the same footing as the others. Shaposhnikov also reported that the Russian Defense Ministry will be housed in a building on Arbat Square, while the Joint Armed Forces High Command will work in Leningrad Avenue, where the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces HQ was previously located.

Khasbulatov Accused of 'Embezzlement,' Abuses

LD2505190292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1800 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Galina Vinitskaya]

[Text] Moscow May 25 TASS—60 Russian parliamentarians accused Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary speaker, of embezzlement, human rights violations, abuse of office and insulting officials, and decided to create a commission which would investigate his activities and the work of the parliamentary presidium as a whole.

In an open letter made public on Monday [25 May], the parliamentarians said Khasbulatov illegally used hard currency from the social protection fund of the Russian Parliament for a private trip to Italy, was involved in arbitrary and forced eviction of Chechens from Moscow hotels, abused office and ethnic norms while advancing himself for election as a corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, illegally interefered in the work of the government, and quite a few times insulted ministers, parliamentarians, and newspapers which decided to sue him in court.

"We want to legally investigate any accusation cited by mass media," according to Lev Ponomaryov, a representative of the parliamentary group. "If they are proved we shall demand that the speaker resign", he added.

Khizha Post Confirmed, Shumeyko Role Denied

LD2505211492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2043 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS—"Georgiy Khizha was appointed by President Boris Yeltsin's decree on May 20 to the post of vice-premier of the Government of Russia," Government spokesman Andrey Silantyev told TASS on Monday [25 May].

Reports that Khizha has not yet been endorsed as deputy prime minister in charge of industrial issues and that the post will be given to Vladimir Shumeyko "have no ground whatsoever", Silantyev said.

Supreme Soviet

Statement to Ukraine Supreme Soviet Issued

PM2405170592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 May 92 First Edition p 1

["Statement by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] Highly esteemed friends! Colleagues!

In recent times we have been following with great alarm the development of political processes hindering the rapprochement of our peoples and states on the basis of true equality and respect for the principles enshrined in our bilateral treaty of 19 November 1990 and the treaties and agreements adopted within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Doubts have started to appear in Russian society regarding the sincerity of intentions of some founders of the CIS, who, proclaiming on the one hand the noble objectives of creating a true Commonwealth of Independent States on the basis of equality and the harmonious solution of questions of vital importance to all the peoples of the Commonwealth, and on the other hand having obtained genuine political autonomy, are seeking to wreck this Commonwealth, setting their individual interests above the interests and principles proclaimed in the agreement on the creation of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Painful wounds have been inflicted on our relations by unilateral attempts to artificially dismember the Armed Forces, by the battle for the Navy, and by unfriendly utterances at various international forums.

All this inflicts damage on the world community as a whole, which sometimes finds it difficult to understand the actions of the leaderships of some CIS countries, who are not sufficiently conscious, in conditions of the deteriorating economic situation of their states and peoples, of the true realities and the obvious priority of the tasks of restoring and developing severed economic and industrial connections, and who are infringing on the rights of the representatives of the Russian people and the other nations and nationalities historically linked with Russia who are residing on their territories.

Right now in Russia public opinion is gaining ground and strengthening in favor of the adoption of effective measures to defend the Russian Federation's state interests, and demands are being advanced for a legal assessment of the decisions connected with Russia's transfer of the Crimea to Ukraine.

In submitting this question today to a session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, we are in no event pursuing the task of promoting any territorial claims against Ukraine or the fraternal Ukrainian people. The task is a different one—to speak about the actual, extremely unfavorable, state of affairs within the Commonwealth itself. To attract public attention in each of the CIS countries to the actual policies of their governments, whose activity frequently takes no account of the desire of all peoples to live in peace and harmony with the peoples of the former Soviet Union. The peoples' interests are met by strengthening the Commonwealth and developing integration processes by all the means at our disposal.

Remaining devoted to the principle of the inviolability of the borders existing within the CIS, including those between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, Russia intends to strictly abide by the fundamental principles of the UN Charter and the CSCE, and equally the provisions of the Minsk Agreement on the formation of the CIS and the Alma-Ata Declaration.

The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet proceeds on the basis that dialogue on this question should be developed in a civilized manner, and lead to a search for mutual understanding, and not to the deterioration of relations within the Commonwealth or the shaking of its foundations.

At the present moment it is essential for everyone who holds dear the ideals of democracy and justice to show wisdom, responsibility, and restraint regarding the Crimea, and to ensure the strict observation of the rights of the whole population of the Crimea, including the Crimean-Tatar people.

The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet appeals to the Ukrainian president and the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet to refrain from any actions aimed at stifling the free expression of will of the Crimean population, which has in accordance with international norms a perfect right to autonomously determine its fate.

The Russian Supreme Soviet, in the name of the peoples of Russia, confirms its friendly feelings toward the peoples of fraternal Ukraine, and expresses the hope that

our voice will be heard, and all the questions of Russian-Ukrainian relations settled by peaceful means—through political negotiations aimed at achieving just accords responding to the interests of the sides, and promoting peace and concord. The Supreme Soviet hopes that this approach will be also shown on the Ukrainian side and by its higher organs of power. [signed] The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet

Moscow

Russian House of Soviets

22 May 1992

No. 2820-1

Resolution Reevaluates Transfer of Crimea

PM2405191992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 May 92 First Edition p 1

["Resolution of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet on the Legal Assessment of the Decisions Adopted in 1954 by the Supreme Organs of RSFSR State Power on Changing the Status of the Crimea," signed by Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Chairman R.I. Khasbulatov and dated Moscow, Russian House of Soviets, 21 May 1992, No. 2809-1]

[Text] The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet resolves:

1. The resolution of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium of 5 February 1954 "On the Transfer of Crimean Oblast from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic]," having been adopted in violation of the RSFSR Constitution (Basic Law) and the legislative procedure, is to be recognized as having no juridical force from the moment of its adoption. 2. In view of the constitution [konstituirovaniye] of the aforesaid fact by subsequent RSFSR legislation and in view of the conclusion between Ukraine and Russia of a bilateral treaty on 19 November 1990, in which the sides renounce territorial claims, and the enshrining of this principle in treaties and agreements between the CIS states, it is deemed necessary to settle the question of the Crimea through interstate talks between Russia and Ukraine, with the participation of the Crimea on the basis of the expression of will of its population. [Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet

Moscow

Russian House of Soviets

21 May 1992

No. 2809-1

Gaydar Addresses Deputies on Entry Into IMF

LD2205231392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1753 GMT 22 May 92

[Speech by First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar to the Russian Supreme Soviet in Moscow on 22 May—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed chairman, esteemed people's deputies: The document submitted for your attention can be studied as a purely technical one. Indeed, no obligations at all directly emanate on our part with regard to the economic policy being pursued. No obligations emanate for anyone at all nor for any organization to grant us any credits whatsoever. It is a normal case of our country joining an international organization in which approximately 150-160 states participate. It is an act which has already been adopted by a number of sovereign states formed from the Soviet Union after the relevant decision adopted on 27 March by the International Monetary Fund. Per se, this imposes only routine obligations with regard to the provision of extraterritoriality, which extend to all United Nations organizations, and those obligations concerning accessibility of statistics which we, in essence, have already put into operation. At the same time, of course, it is a very serious, weighty, and important decision.

One can relate in various ways to the IMF. One can criticize it for seeking uniform approaches to the most diverse countries. One can complain about the arbitrariness and heartlessness of the bureaucrats of the IMF. But there is one thing one cannot deny. The IMF is the pivot of the modern world financial system. It is one of the key institutions whose decisions, whose policy, exerts a determining influence on all international financial processes in the world. And it is not simply that the IMF grants large-scale financial credits on uniquely favorable terms—long-term credits, at an interest rate below the LIBOR [London Interbank Offered Rate]. The point is that the stance of the IMF and the institutions associated with it—the World Bank and the International Development Association—exercise a determining influence on the decisions adopted by nearly all international economic institutions. The decisions of the G-7 are always primarily based on the stance adopted by the IMF and the World Bank. The decisions of the Paris and London Clubs, which determine the terms and deferments of debts, are very closely linked with the stance of the IMF and the World Bank. Moreover, these institutions themselves are in essence closely integrated with the IMF and negotiations carried out by the Paris and London Clubs are, as a rule, carried out with member countries of the IMF.

And, finally, private investment. It is no secret to anyone that however you relate to the IMF and the World Bank, cooperation with them is a very powerful signal to private business that money can be invested in this country. Each dollar of credit from the IMF and the World Bank, as a rule, attracts at least several dollars of private capital investment. It goes without saying that

today, the long-term negative repercussions of the decision made when we, and our country, the Soviet Union, stood at the inception of the formation of the Bretton Woods institutions to refuse to participate in their work are especially understandable. In essence, the influence of this decision on the disposition of economic forces in the world and on the adoption of decisions throughout the whole of postwar history would be comparable with, let us say, the possible decision by the Soviet Union to refuse to participate as a member of the UN Security Council. We found ourselves divorced from mechanisms of influence in the fundamentally major centers of international financial policy. The most onerous aftermath of this situation was particularly graphically demonstrated when the financial respectability of the Soviet Union was shaken, when last year we were confronted with an extremely serious payments crisis. Parallel to this, it became evident that, despite the intensity of our efforts, we cannot service the poorly structured foreign debt which has built up, and at the same time the most important sectors of our economy depend for their lifeblood on uninterrupted deliveries of a whole range of imported goods, primarily grain. In this situation, the impossibility of rapidly falling back on cooperation with such organizations as the IMF and the World Bank and our wavering in negotiations with the London and Paris Clubs almost put us on the verge of a most serious catastrophe this winter which today has undoubtedly manifest itself in a decrease in livestock, but not as could have happened in a more serious turn of events.

Of course, starting negotiations with the IMF now—we started them last year—we had to do this on a much poorer foundation than we might have had, say, not only in 1944 but even a few years ago. Of course, it was difficult to obtain an acceptable, adequate status for Russia. Let us take the quota; quota is an issue which plays a pivotal role in influencing the process of decision-making at the IMF. We started the negotiating process with a quota which was 10 percent lower than that of China. As a result of rather difficult negotiations—they went on agonizingly, requiring the help of diplomats, even at the top level—we managed to obtain a quota approximately 20 percent higher than China's. At the same time, a place was secured for us on the board of directors. This means that we are entering it at a time when we face difficulties, and we are entering it in far from ideal conditions. But at least we are entering on conditions that give us a chance of having a strong position as regards our influence on the mechanism of decision-making in the international financial system. After this act is approved, we cease to be just the side that is suffering, just a participant in unpleasant negotiations and we ourselves begin to have an influence on the process of shaping those negotiations, on the process of forming the positions of those institutions. And this is where the crucial importance of this document lies.

Naturally—I emphasize this once again—approving it does not mean that we are agreeing to a certain specific program of action and that the IMF is committing itself to granting us any credits, but it gives us negotiating positions which are strong enough to enable us to settle the problems connected with our debt, achieve a favorable result in the negotiations on deferring the Soviet Union's debt, which is perhaps our key problem, even more vital than potential credits. It considerably strengthens our position in negotiations with virtually all our foreign partners.

I hope, dear people's deputies, that you will support this document, vote in favor of it and by doing so open to Russia the way back into the international financial community, toward its greater influence on the decisions being made within it.

Regional Affairs

Rutskoy Visits Rostov Oblast, Defense Plants

LD2505075892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2230 GMT 24 May 92

[Report by Tatyana Vimbayeva with recorded excerpts from interview with Russian Vice President Aleksandr Vladimirovich Rutskoy; in Rostov Oblast on 24 May]

[Text] [Studio] The second day of Russian Vice President Aleksandr Vladimirovich Rutskoy's visit to Rostov Oblast has passed. Let's hear this report by journalist Tatyana Vimbayeva.

[Rutskoy] Look at Rostov Oblast, it is as big as a decent-sized European state. Therefore, you should always count on your own inner resources. However, in order to give impetus to all this and start talking about transition to the market, you should be allowing the creation of holding [previous word in English] companies.

[Vimbayeva] The vice president said this during his visit to the helicopter-manufacturing association, one of the main facilities of the so-called military-industrial complex. Incidentally, the vice president and his entourage are traveling across our large oblast in helicopters produced by this very enterprise. And although this product is of a competitive quality, today the situation here, as in many defense enterprises, is not one of the easiest. Only conversion can save them. An exhibition of the goods produced in our oblast can be seen. The assortment is very wide—from motor trailers and sausage-making production lines to home electronics. The vice president was not completely excited by all these. Not by the sight of the various consumer goods, but by how the conversion of our defense industry itself is going.

[Rutskoy] You have started converting the military-industrial complex. And later you will remember my words: the reconversion will begin in five years. And we will have to invest 10 times more money in it than we had to invest now for today's business. How it is possible to take a military-industrial complex enterprise and convert 98 percent of it? Does this mean that defense no longer needs what it used to produce?

[Vimbayeva] Naturally, the conversation at the Rostov agriculture machinery works was about the complexity of the task of reforming agriculture. The development of private farming demands substantial additional spending in order for it to get on its feet and become profitable. The government does not have money for this, as we know. Here is, as one might say, an alternative project suggested by the vice president:

[Rutskoy] Here I would take a different course. I mean, creating holding companies and bringing in foreign investors. This means attracting, not foreign government credits, but private foreign credits and investment, creating joint holding companies and production of equipment by using modern technologies in accordance with world standards. I will tell you that our scientific and technical brains are twice as good as any Western brain. And you just have to give them a chance to use it. Therefore, this system of holding companies is today the most realistic system for transition to the market. This is why I have special plans today for this southern region—Rostov, Krasnodar, Stavropol—where industry is developed as well as agriculture. Here, the processing industry is also developed to some extent. Give them a little, and it will move.

[Vimbayeva] The first practical step was made already in Salsk. Today, negotiations were held there with the representatives of the (Isenberg) firm from Israel. Tomorrow, the vice president of the Russian Federation, Aleksandr Rutskoy, will continue his meetings on Don soil.

'Unsatisfactory' Reforms Noted

LD2505142192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 25 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] During his tour of Rostov oblast, Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy said that in his opinion the unsatisfactory course of the reforms can be explained by the fact that the government began them by liberalizing prices; moreover, 99.9 percent of enterprises are state property.

According to Rutskoy, 10 years are needed to reach the level attained in 1989. [video shows Rutskoy arriving at airport, talking to journalists]

Outlines Agro-Industrial Plan

OW2405174192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1712 GMT 24 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy, who is at present visiting Rostov Oblast, has had a meeting today with farmers and members of local government bodies in Salsk District at which he expounded his own program for agro-industrial reforms in the southern regions of Russia, including Rostov Oblast.

One of the key points in it is higher efficiency in agricultural management. In Rutskoy's opinion, provisions for landownership in the present-day legislation reflect an "authoritarian approach to agricultural management."

The Vice-President believes that 70% of the waters, forest, and arable land in the area should be given to farmers free of charge, and the other 30% should be sold off. Experts estimate that this would give the state a profit of 10.2 trillion rubies which can be spent on the development of rural infrastructures.

The Vice-President expects such measures to stabilize the financial system and check inflation. Legislation should also be passed on mortgaging, which should encourage the crediting of agriculture and capital investment in it.

Rutskoy thinks the Land Bank should impose penalties on those making inappropriate use of their land holdings.

He said there was a plan to set up agricultural corporations in six southern regions of Russia, including Rostov Oblast. Using new technologies they would be able to raise agricultural output by a factor of five to six. Apart from this, a sugar-beet-processing corporation is going to be set up in Kursk Oblast, where Rutskoy is going in a few days' time.

He said he had persuaded the President to abolish the value-added tax for farmers.

The right to own land will take three to three and a half years to become firmly established, Rutskoy believes, which means no agro-industrial reforms will now be possible without government support. Yeltsin, he said, had examined his ideas on agro-industrial reforms some time ago, approving them and instructing the government to prepare within a week a draft decree on further agrarian and agro-industrial reforms, which the government had still not done, although six weeks had passed.

Rutskoy regretted that the country lacked a "Russian idea," recalling Petr Stolypin, a famous Russian agrarian reformer who had introduced "liberal reforms" and enjoyed "extensive powers."

Discusses Property Rights

LD2405220492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1941 GMT 24 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bondarenko]

[Text] Salsk, Rostov region May 24 TASS—The right of property on land, collective or private, should be economically protected. A thorough stock-taking of land should be conducted as to its suitability for farming or only for capital and civilian construction. Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy stated this on Sunday [24 May] in Salsk, the centre of the biggest grain-growing region on the Don. He addressed a working meeting of heads of the administration of districts of the south and

east of the region, heads of collective farms and farmers, Cossack chiefs.

Rutskoy believes that the land bank should issue securities—certificates to the right of using the evaluated land which will enable owners of land to participate in any economic operation. Rutskoy proposed that a multibranch joint stock consortium be formed with the participation of businessmen on the basis of four districts of the Don—Salsk, Peschanokopsk, Tserbinskiy and Proletarskiy.

International Affairs

Foreign Ministry Rejects Decision on Crimea

LD2505115692 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 0940 GMT 25 May 92

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Trosenko]

[Text] Kiev, 25 May—The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has sent a note to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connection with the decision passed on 21 May by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, "On the Legal Assessment of the Decisions by the Top Bodies of State Power of the RSFSR on Changing the Status of the Crimea, Passed in 1954."

The note points out that Ukraine considers the adoption by the Russian Supreme Soviet of the aforementioned decision as a step that runs counter to the norms and principles of modern-day international law and that is fraught with dangerous and unpredictable consequences. It is aimed at undermining such fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act as the principles of the territorial integrity of states and the inviolability of borders.

The note stresses that the unilateral attempt by means of legislation to cast doubt on the lawfulness of existing borders between two UN sovereign member states and participants in the Conference on Security and Coperation in Europe, and the renunciation of obligations undertaken, including under the treaty between the Ukraine Soviet Socialist Republic [UkSSR] and the RSFSR of 19 November 1990 and under the agreement on the setting up of the Commonwealth of Independent States of 8 December 1991, could result in the disruption of stability on the continent.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has drawn the attention of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the indisputable fact that the matter of the transfer of the Crimean Oblast from the RSFSR to the UkSSR was settled in accordance with legislation existing at the time, including the constitutions of the USSR, the RSFSR, and the UkSSR.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has declared that Ukraine has no territorial claims against other states and at the same time rejects any territorial claims against itself.

Fokin Comments

LD2305061792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0530 GMT 23 May 92

[Text] Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin is visiting Hungary and has made a statement on the Crimea issue at a news conference in Budapest. He noted that the Russian parliament, in declaring unlawful the 1954 decision to transfer the Crimea to Ukraine, has questioned the constitutional validity of all the decisions made during the 70-year existence of the totalitarian state. According to Fokin, the Crimean situation could develop in any way, but one thing is clear: Ukraine will never allow anyone to interfere in its internal affairs.

Ministry Scores Russian Media

LD2305203192 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 1241 GMT 22 May 92

["Statement by Press Service of Ukraine's Defense Ministry"—UKRINFORM headline; by UKRINFORM correspondent Nikolay Zayka]

[Text] Kiev, 22 May—The Press Service of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense has issued a statement concerning certain insinuations in the mass media about personnel matters in the republic's armed forces. The statement, on the basis of an analysis of publications in the paper KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA and the weekly 'ARGUMENTY I FAKTY, speaks of the deliberate spreading in millions of copies of downright lies about the way officers pass through the Certification Commission of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry. Here it is noted that these publications saw the light of day on the eve of the examination of the Crimean issue by a session of the Russian Supreme Soviet.

The Press Service quotes the words of Lieutenant General Ivan Bizhan, Ukrainian deputy minister of defense: "There was no question of will you fight Russia, about which General Kuznetsov speculates. It could not arise in such a formulation. I speak of this with full authority as chairman of the Certification Commission."

The mass media of Russia, the statement stresses, are waging a purposeful psychological war against Ukraine, and are preparing public opinion for any, even the very hardest, measures in relation to its "obstinate" sovereignty. This suits somebody, but not the peoples of our countries.

Russia's Stance Protested

LD2505193592 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 1039 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] The presentation of the Association of Supporters of the Declaration on the State Sovereignty of Ukraine, (?Vichisna) took place on Independence Square in Kiev on 24 May.

It's head, (?Viktor Borkivskyy), said that this was the meeting of protest against the decision adopted by the Russian parliament which considers the 1954 act on the transfer of the Crimea to Ukraine from the composition of Russia as having no juridical force. (?Viktor Borkivskyy) pointed out that this decision is an encroachment on the territorial integrity of the Ukrainian state. The meeting demonstrated the condemnation by our compatriots of the actions taken by Russia in relation to sovereign Ukraine.

Government Issues Statement on Moldovan Events

LD2405085192 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 23 May 92

[Text] In connection with the situation in the Dniester regions' of the Republic of Moldova becoming aggravated, the Ukraine Government has issued a statement. It reads:

In recent days, the situation has become sharply aggravated again in the conflict zone in the Dniester region. The repeated violations of the cease-fire agreement of 6 April of this year are developing into more and more severe military clashes in which machine-guns and certain types of heavy weapons are used. The number of refugees is growing constantly. Dubossary hydroelectric power station is subjected to systematic fire. The demolition or pollution of its water could turn into a terrible ecological disaster, both for the Republic of Moldova and for Ukraine.

The fact that irresponsible actions of the fighting sides lead to involving military units of the 14th Army in the conflict is also inadmissible. The people of Ukraine and its leading state circles cannot sit idle in the tragic and dangerous development of events on lands adjoining us and be indifferent to painful and irretrievable losses experienced by peoples who are close, kindred, and fraternal to us.

We call on Ukrainians, Russians, Moldovans, and people of all nations and ethnic groups of Moldova to take a balanced attitude and have mutual tolerance, which was inherent in them during all periods of history.

We also propose our mediation in any acceptable form in order to localize the fratricidal conflict and overcome the deadlock. It is time to look for accord and make one's choice.

CSFR's Prime Minister Calfa Begins Visit

Meets With Prime Minister Fokin

LD2505133692 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Czech 1200 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa met with Vitold Fokin, chairman of the Council of Ministers, in Kiev today. Following a brief welcome ceremony, the two representatives began their one-on-one talks.

At the same time Federal Minister of Foreign Trade Jozef Baksay and Federal Minister of Communications Emil Ehrenberger, and Slovak Deputy Premier Anton Vavro as well as other members of a Czechoslovak delegation held talks with their Ukrainian counterparts.

Meets With President Kravchuk

LD2505134292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1045 GMT 25 May 92

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya]

[Text] Kiev, 25 May (TASS)—President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine received Prime Minister Marian Calfa of the CSFR, who arrived in Kiev today on a one-day official visit. In the course of their conversation, there was discussion of a package of issues of mutual interest, and both sides voiced their aspiration to expand and deepen interstate relations. Our ties have recently expanded, Leonid Kravchuk commented, but as yet nowhere near as much as they could. There is an urgent need for good-neighborly and friendly relations between Ukraine and the CSFR to develop in all spheres—political, economic, and cultural. "Your visit is of great importance for the development of contacts between our two countries. After this, we must put our relations on a new interstate level," the Ukrainian president emphasized.

Attends Embassy Opening

LD2505170192 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Slovak 1600 GMT 25 May 92

[Report by special correspondent Petr Voldan]

[Excerpts] Since this afternoon, Czechoslovakia has had an embassy in Kiev. In the presence of Prime Minister Marian Calfa, the consulate general in the Ukrainian capital was elevated to the status of an embassy, while the issue of who will be our future ambassador is already being discussed. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Calfa discussed the need to maintain mutual economic contacts both with Ukrainian President Kravchuk as well as with Fokin and Plyushch, the heads of the government and parliament. As Marian Calfa said at a news conference a little while ago, he handed President Kravchuk a personal invitation from Vaclav Havel to visit Czechoslovakia.

A treaty on good-neighborliness, friendly relations, and cooperation between the CSFR and Ukraine should become an umbrella for our future relations with an independent Ukraine. The document was initialed in Kiev today by deputies of the foreign ministries of both countries. But let us remain on terra firma! Judging from everything, with the dispute about the fate of Crimea and other problems between Ukraine and Russia, our prime minister's visit to Kiev was only an episode for the locals.

Ends Visit

LD2605092292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0732 GMT 26 May 92

[By UKRINFORM-TASS correspondents Aleksey Petrunya and Aleksey Trotsenko]

[Text] Kiev, May 26 TASS—Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa described his official visit to Ukraine as useful and fruitful.

Telling reporters on Monday [25 May] about the results of his sejourn here, he noted that Czechoslovakia was very much interested in promoting relations with Ukraine, in settling all the arising problems. This was the focus of his meeting with Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, during which both sides agreed that there were good prospects for bilateral relations. Marian Calfa forwarded to Leonid Kravchuk a letter from Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel, as well as an invitation to visit Czechoslovakia.

Calfa also had talks with Ukrainian Premier Vitold Fokin. They discussed the debts incurred by the former USSR and Ukraine's participation in their settlement, prospects for developing trade and transport services between the two countries, problems linked with the passage of citizens of the two countries over the common border. Working teams have been set up to resolve all outstanding issues. The sides also discussed the future of the Krivoy Rog benefeciation complex, the construction of which was started by countries of the former Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. Discussed also been problems linked with the resettlement of Czechs and Slovaks from areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster to Czechoslovakia.

Cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries was in the focus of Calfa's talk with chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Ivan Plyushch. They discussed Ukraine's integration into the "Vysegrad Triangle".

Calfa attended the opening of the Czechoslovak embassy in Ukraine.

The sides initialled on Monday a treaty on goodneighbourly relations, friendship and cooperation between Ukraine and Czechoslovakia. One of its most important stipulations, the head of the Czechoslovak government believes, is that both countries have pledged to never lay any territorial claims to each other.

Marian Calfa left Kiev for Prague late on Monday evening.

Foreign Minister's Activities in Lisbon Noted

LD2605031492 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian 1251 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] Kiev, 25 May (UKRINFORM)—The international conference on economic aid to the countries of the former USSR has completed its work in the Portuguese capital, Lisbon. Taking part in the work were representatives of the main donor countries, European financial organizations, and the United Nations and its special establishments. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko, head of the Ukrainian delegation, presented the main points of view on the development of international economic cooperation and the organization of technical aid to Ukraine.

A. Zlenko met with the Israeli foreign minister in Lisbon. The ministers exchanged ideas on expanding relations between the two countries and defined possible spheres of cooperation.

Negotiations with the foreign ministers of Austria, Egypt, Belgium, Finland, Canada, Great Britain, and the Netherlands were held in the same context.

A protocol on the treaty on reducing and restricting strategic offensive weapons was also signed by the foreign ministers of Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine and the U.S. secretary of state.

NATO Conference Associate Membership Reported

LD2105225192 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 20 May 92

[Text] Ukraine has become an associate member of the North Atlantic Assembly Conference of the NATO states parliamentarians. An official decision on granting such a status has been adopted at the session of the assembly which was held in Banff, Canada. Thus one more step has been made toward overcoming the remnants of the Cold War between the East and the West and of the split of Europe along the ideological and military lines into which Ukraine was drawn by the former totalitarian regime in Moscow.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Mongolia

LD2305034392 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1902 GMT 20 May 92

[Text] The Governments of Ukraine and Mongolia have signed an agreement at the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Economic Ties and Trade on trade and economic cooperation, a payment agreement, and a protocol on delivering goods and allocating services this year. This will make it possible to dynamically develop mutually beneficial economic relations between sovereign states and their individual subjects. At the instructions of the Ukrainian Government, the agreements and the protocol were signed by Tymofeyev, first deputy minister of foreign economic ties and trade for Ukraine.

Consultation Protocol Signed With Morocco

LD2205191292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 22 May 92

[Text] Today a protocol was signed at the Foreign Political Department of Ukraine on mutual consultations between the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine and the Kingdom of Morocco. From the Moroccan side taking part in the signing was the deputy minister for foreign affairs and cooperation of that country, Mahdi Jorio.

National Affairs

'Grand Gesture' to Crimea To Cost Other Regions

PM2005105392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Eduard Kondratov report: "Ukraine Allocates 6 Billion Rubles to the Crimea. Will This Extinguish Passions?"]

[Text] "A mission to grant wishes"—this is how the two-week visit to the Crimea of 25 Ukrainian ministry and department leaders could be described. The ministerial party was headed by republic First Vice Premier Konstantin Masik. He noted approvingly that it appears that "the deadlock has been broken on the problems of stabilizing the Ukrainian economy" through joint efforts.

Kiev has responded affirmatively to virtually all the requests of Crimean business executives. The Ukrainian Bank is allocating 6 billion rubles [R] for a program of economic stabilization of the peninsula. In this sum, R3.4 billion is for the development of agriculture, 500 million for the needs of the social sphere. Credits worth R580 million have been determined for the purchase of meat for the health resort season alone. State enterprises are to be rescued by the fourfold indexation [as published] of circulating capital: This will enable a huge debt to be paid off.

The Crimea has been promised thousands of cubic meters of timber, millions of rubles' worth of trolleybus tires, contact cables, and pipes. Municipal transport equipment will be purchased for Simferopol at a cost of $1 million. Sevastopol will finally be properly supplied with water, and the countryside will receive metal, mixed feed, and polyethelene.

Commenting to IZVESTIYA on this grand gesture, K. Masik said frankly that Ukraine, which has a huge internal debt, did not find it easy to spend such impressive sums on the Crimea, and they would undoubtedly have an impact on the funding of other regions of the republic. However, the political situation urged the redistribution of investments in the Crimea's favor.

Moreover, Kiev's generosity first of all firmly emphasizes the Crimea's economic dependency on Ukraine, and secondly anticipates potential passions at the Supreme Soviet session opening in Simferopol 20 May, at which deputies will return to the discussion of the Crimea's Act of State Autonomy, which Ukraine has rejected. The deputies, among whom there are many business executives, understand perfectly well that Kiev will undoubtedly make the rescue investments fully dependent on the decision which the session adopts. To refuse money and resources would, in their view, be madness. However rich the potential afforded to the Crimea by its natural resources and health resorts, it is not ready to exploit this potential autonomously. The Crimea's prosperity continues to depend entirely on appropriations from Kiev. Kiev has rejected the Crimeans' claims to their own budget and tax system.

The Crimea cannot cope by itself with with the very critical sociopolitical problem of the return to their homeland of hundreds of thousands of deported Crimean Tartars, for which Ukraine is allocating R4 billion. Nevertheless, the Crimean Supreme Soviet session promises to be heated. Although Crimean deputies will most likely combine efforts in the search for constructive compromises. The leaders of 20 Crimean rayons and cities called for such efforts in their appeal.

Crimean Movement Demands Extraordinary Session

LD2405161392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 24 May 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A meeting of the Coordinating Council of the Republican Movement of the Crimea [RMD] has taken place. The RMC Council demanded that an extraordinary session of the Crimean parliament be held. In connection with the resolution on suspending the preparation for a Crimean-wide referendum adopted by the Crimean parliament on 21 May, the RMC Council has decided to demand holding an extraordinary session of the Crimean Supreme Soviet on 28 May. The RMC proposes to form—and I quote—plenipotentiary delegations of the Crimean Republic to conclude treaties with Ukraine and the Russian Federation and to resolve the issue on the status of the Crimean Republic in the CIS framework.

Civil Congress Holds Constituent Meeting

PM2605133792 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 92 p 2

[Correspondents Boris Glotov, Mikhail Odinets report: "Even Rukh Can Make a Mistake"]

[Text] Kiev-Donetsk—The disposition of forces in the Ukrainian political arena has undergone yet another change. Following the reorganization of Rukh's [People's Movement of Ukraine] leadership and the formation of a triumvirate, which arose as a result of the movement's crisis when a radical section headed by V. Chornovil and demanding withdrawal from the CIS firmly made its presence known, a crisis has developed in the Republican Party—now one of the most influential in Ukraine.

Meanwhile a Civil Congress of Ukrainian Democratic Forces, which has declared its opposition to the authority existing in the republic, has taken place in Donetsk.

Envoys from Kiev, Donetsk, Kharkov, Dnepropetrovsk, Lugansk, Odessa, Nikolayev, and Lvov got together in order to act jointly against the official policy being

pursued by the present Ukrainian leadership. D. Stepanchuk, first secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine, was one of the guests present.

The program statement adopted at the congress says that the Kiev authorities' cardinal sin is that they are building an independent Ukraine not by laying foundations and erecting walls—a strong economy and prosperous civic society—but by hastily constructing its roof, the state superstructure. They are saddling the crisis-hit economy with the excessive burden of expenditures on an overblown state apparatus and a colossal military machine. They are forsaking citizens' vital interests for political ambitions.

A bloc of opposition forces—the Civil Congress of Ukraine—was created at the forum. It includes such republic and oblast organizations as the Civil and Fatherland Forums of Ukraine, the "Rus" Society, the International Movement, tHe Socialist Party, "Election-89," and others.

Opposition Group 'Demands Government Resignation'

MK2505161092 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 May 92 p 3

[Vladimir Skachko report under "Ukraine" rubric: "Vladimir Grinev: 'Disarray in President's Entourage.' 'New Ukraine' Demands Government Resignation"]

[Text] As is well known, during the discussion of the 1992 Ukrainian draft state budget on 18 May the parliamentary faction of the "New Ukraine" sociopolitical association (around 70 deputies headed by Vladimir Grinev, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet) issued a statement which says among other things ""New Ukraine' has made numerous specific proposals on changing the structure of the budget and reforming tax policy and has suggested ways to make more efficient use of budget revenue. Unfortunately, our proposals have been disregarded and therefore we refuse to cooperate constructively with the present government, declare our opposition to it, and demand its resignation." In addition "New Ukraine" deputies have asked Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk to carry out a radical reorganization of the executive, to take control of it, and to move from talking about economic reform to actions.

This statement by "New Ukraine" is maybe of greatest surprise to parliament because "New Ukraine" itself was in an ambiguous position. Formed in January 1992 as a liberal movement for economic reform, from the very outset it declared that it would only take part in reform of the economy and cooperation with the Vitold Fokin government. Furthermore, three of its founders were given portfolios in the Ukrainian Cabinet, by no means second-rate ones either. For example, Vladimir Lanovoy became vice premier and minister of the economy and spearheaded a reform of what is essentially the most important economic bloc.

On 21 May members of the "New Ukraine" Presidium held a special news conference where evidently they wanted to set the record straight both with the press and the public in Ukraine. Vladimir Grinev and Vladimir Filenko, parliamentary deputy and secretary of "New Ukraine," told journalists that the most important element in "New Ukraine's" present position is less its negative attitude toward the state budget—which they believe is formed on incorrect principles—than an acutely negative attitude toward the present government of Vitold Fokin on the grounds that it is completely incapable of carrying out the economic transformations. "The main thing today is to boost Ukrainian entrepreneurs, protect them, and assist enterprise. It is impossible to combine these tasks with the proposed budget, whose main principle—avoiding a deficit—is founded on a tax system which stifles enterprise, and the government knows that. Therefore, we are collecting deputies' signatures for a parliamentary discussion of a motion of confidence in the government. We already have about 140 signatures," they said. In Grinev and Filenko's opinion, the situation is caused by confusion in the structure of the executive and the creation of three parallel and duplicate structures—the president's apparatus, the State Council, and the Cabinet of Ministers itself—which are carrying out a joint investigation and have forgotten why they were set up. "There is no order in Leonid Kravchuk's executive, which is why it needs political will from him above all to change the situation," the "New Ukraine" deputies said. In their opinion, however, since no one today is prepared to suggest their own government, nor are there conditions for the creation of a coalition government, "New Ukraine" is calling for nothing less than a radical change of government personnel. "There must be a government of specialists," Vladimir Filenko stated, adding that the present Ukrainian leadership, although not of a particular political stamp, is essentially the old Communist nomenklatura which held power in the past. But Arnold Romanenko, president of the Ukrainian Union of Cooperative Members and Entrepreneurs, stated at the news conference that a class of big property owners is being formed in Ukraine from members of the former nomenklatura who do not stand to gain from normal privatization and are therefore delaying it.

It emerged at the news conference that "New Ukraine" is preparing to hold a constituent congress in Kiev 26-28 June and has no intention of changing its economic strategy. Even though it was stated a number of times at the meeting that "New Ukraine" is not ready to become an autonomous party, it can be stated confidently that the new property-owning class really has its own pressure group on the republic's political map and is ready to compete with the old structures in the struggle for property. If the necessary number of deputies' votes (150) is achieved, it could lead either to the resignation of the Fokin government or to a major parliamentary crisis. Neither of these two developments is likely to please Leonid Kravchuk, and most probably he would try to find a compromise solution. The first step in that

direction could be a closed session of parliament involving the president and the government, which until now has been put off because of the pressure of rapidly developing events outside.

Rukh Appeals for Trial of Communist Party

LD2505102892 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] The Coordination Council of the Lugansk region organization of Rukh [People's Movement of Ukraine] appealed to the president of Ukraine with a demand that an open trial be carried out over the former Communist Party as a criminal organization. The sitting of the Rukh was held in Lugansk.

According to the chairman of the Rukh organization in that region, (?Olena Bondaryenko), their coordination council considers that the wave of strikes which were held in Lugansk region were instigated by the pro-imperial, pro-communist forces and were aimed at undermining the statehood of Ukraine.

Ministers Cabinet Issues Official Appointments

AU2505113092 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian No. 18 (64), May 92 p 2

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Major General Viktor Ivanovych Bannykh has been appointed as first deputy chairman of the State Committee for Questions of Defense of Ukraine's State Border; as commander of Ukraine's Border Troops—as chief of staff of Ukraine's Border Troops—and relieved of duties as deputy chairman of the State Committee for Questions of Defense of Ukraine' State Border; as commander of Ukraine's Border Troops and chief of the Committee's Operations and Investigation Administration. [sentence as published]

Colonel Volodymyr Petrovych Dordyuk has been appointed as deputy chairman of the State Committee for Questions of Defense of Ukraine's State Border and commander of Ukraine's Border Troops as chief of the Committee's Operations and Investigation Administration.

In accordance with the 14 April Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers resolution, Leonid Vasylyovych Minin has been appointed as Ukraine's first deputy minister of economy; Yuriy Vasylyovych Nechayev as Ukraine's deputy minister of economy; Valentyn Petrovych Popov as Ukraine's deputy minister of economy and relieved of duties as Ukraine's first deputy minister of economy.

The Cabinet of Ministers has appointed Serhiy Mykhaylovych Ryabchenko as chairman of Ukraine's State Committee for Questions of Science and Technology.

Mykola Fedorovych Kulinich has been appointed as chairman of the State Committee for Foodstuffs Industry.

Anatoliy Polikarpovych Sorokin has been appointed as Ukraine's first deputy and Nadiya Maksymivna Malysh as deputy minister of labor.

Yuriy Oleksiyovych Solovyov has been appointed as first deputy and Mykola Mykhaylovych Starodub as deputy minister of communications of Ukraine.

Yuriy Oleksiyovych Dvoynykh has been appointed as deputy minister of the Cabinet of Ministers and relieved of duties as deputy minister of Ukraine's economy.

Volodymyr Vasylyovych Lytvynov has been appointed deputy chairman of Ukraine's State Agency for Authors' and Related Rights at the Cabinet of Ministers.

Decree Issued on Creation of Military Collegium

AU2005155392 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 20 May 92

[Text] Yet another decree issued by President Leonid Kravchuk marks a new stage in the building of independent Ukraine's Armed Forces. It pertains to the creation of the Military Collegium at Ukraine's Ministry of Defense and of military councils in districts and formations of the National Armed Forces.

The decree was issued in order to ensure the implementation of the resolutions adopted by Ukraine's Defense Council and to guarantee collective elaboration of decisions with regard to the leadership of the Armed Forces. The Military Collegium is headed by the minister of defense. The chairmen of military councils are commanders of districts or formations. The military council includes, among others, the presidential representative in the oblast and the chairman of the council of people's deputies of the oblast where corresponding administrations of formations are situated.

The regulations on the Military Collegium and military councils must be approved by Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers at the recommendation of the Ministry of Defense.

Moldova

Military Equipment Delivered From Romania

LD2205210492 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1826 GMT 22 May 92

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] Dubossary—Press-center of the Dniester Moldovan Republic (PMR) reports that on May 21 twenty tanks and 30 pontoons delivered from Romania were unloaded from a train near the Moldavian settlement of Gidichi. According to other reports, the train delivered 50 pontoons and 5 heavy trucks, supposedly with arms and ammunition. Referring to trustworthy sources press-center of the PMR stated that the delivery of equipment, arms and munition, as well as arrival of Romanian military advisors, are a result of a confidential conversation between Presidents Snegur and Iliescu during the latter's recent visit to Chisinau.

The situation on Moldova's territory to the left from Dniester River remains complicated. On May 22 press-bureau of Moldova Interior Ministry reported that the guards of the Dniester republic continue fire at the villages of Kochiery, Dorotskoye, Korzhevo and Cosnita. Policemen's positions have been repeatedly attacked by tanks and placed under fire from all kinds of arms. According to the Moldova Interior Ministry, after the May 22 cannonade five people were killed, 12 wounded. According to the press-center of the Dniester area republic, the Moldova police fired at Dubossary and several settlements. Two persons were wounded. PF [POSTFACTUM] was informed that evacuation of civilians from Dubossary and adjacent settlements started on May 21.

10 tanks hijacked by the Dniester republic volunteer soldiers still remain the basic proof of Russia's intervention for the Moldovan leadership. Other facts were not proved by inspection. For example, Moldova's press featured the information on 28 tanks and 2,000 soldiers of the 14th Army allegedly marching to Dubossary. The check failed to verify this information. Chairman of the Dniester Republic Grigory Marakutsa officially assessed the propaganda campaign in Moldova: the purpose of such reports is to escalate the tension and trigger a scandal in order to slam the door shut and go to Romania without any referendum.

In the night of May 24 a train carrying conscripts from Moldova is expected to cross the border to Romania at the Ungeniy checkpoint. Military commander of the city of Chisinau told the officers of the Chisinau border guard unit that 800 Moldavian young men will be trained in military trade in Romania.

Snegur Notifies UN of Russian 'Aggression'

AU2305172292 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1500 GMT 23 May 92

[Text] The President of the Republic of Moldova, Mircea Snegur, sent a telegram to the UN Secretary General, Butrus Butrus Ghali, concerning the development of the situation in the Republic of Moldova.

The telegram says that the Republic of Moldova, a UN member country, is facing serious danger, as its security, independence, and territorial integrity is challenged by the brutal and violent involvement in Moldova's internal affairs of the 14th Russian Army. Cease-fire agreements have been repeatedly violated over the last few days, which resulted in many people having been killed, considerable material losses, and a large number of refugees coming from the conflict zone. As a matter of fact, the whole territory situated on the left bank of the Dniester River of the Republic of Moldova is occupied by the forces of the 14th Army.

All this is an act of military aggression, an undeclared war of the Russian Federation against the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Government being solely responsible for all its consequences.

After reviewing Moldova's initiatives aimed at peacefully settling the conflict, President Mircea Snegur requested that the UN Secretary General hand out his letter—including the annexes—as official documents to the members of the UN Security Council, in order for that body to be briefed on the situation.

The message also states that if the Russian Federation does not immediately end this act of military aggression against the Republic of Moldova and does not withdraw its forces involved in the conflict on the left bank of the Dniester River, the Republic of Moldova reserves the right to officially request that the UN Security Council discuss the matter.

Defense Minister Restricts Aircraft Flights

LD2305173292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1700 GMT 23 May 92

[Text] Chisinau, 23 May (MOLDOVA-PRES-TASS)—In accordance with an instruction of Moldovan Defense Minister Ion Grigore Costas, all aircraft flights over Moldovan territory will be carried out only in agreement with the Republican Ministry of Defense. In the event of a breach of the requirement, all aircraft will be considered to be violators of the airspace of a sovereign state, and immediate measures will be employed to stop their flight.

Snegur Signs Order on Defected Troops

LD2405104392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0940 GMT 24 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chishinau, 24 May—Moldovan President Mircea Snegur today signed an instruction on measures to protect the republic from units of the 14th Joint Army under Russian jurisdiction that have gone over to the side of the Dniester region. The document notes that the Moldovan Ministry of Defense, together with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and National Security, is instructed to work out and implement a range of measures to protect the republic from units of the 14th Joint Army under Russian jurisdiction that have gone over to the side of the separatist forces. In accordance with this it is planned to muster Moldovan reservist military units. Ministries and appropriate departments are charged with providing prompt and full finance and provision for the Ministry of Defense.

The republican procuracy is recommended to increase supervision of the compliance by all enterprises and institutions and citizens of the laws of Moldova on military issues. During the period of specific operational measures, the instruction points out, the leadership of subunits of the Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Internal Affairs and National Security is invested in the staff of the commander in chief of the Moldovan armed forces who, according to the Constitution, is the republic's president.

President Snegur Accused of 'Disinformation'

LD2405222392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 24 May 92

[Video report by S. Shatunov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Moldovan President Snegur has signed an instruction on defending the Republic against armed aggression from the 14th Army. The MOLDOVA-PRES news agency reports that the content of the document speaks of the Republic's transfer to martial law. Russia's 14th Army has openly taken the side of the separatists and practically occupied the left bank areas of Moldova, says a message from President Snegur to UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali. This is nothing but direct aggression by Russia against Moldova, Snegur believes.

[Shatunov] Mircea Snegur's statement about armed aggression by the 14th Army against the Republic of Moldova has no foundation. According to the command's official information—and we have been able to see this for ourselves—the personnel of the 14th Army are in the barracks. The defensive positions of the Dniester Republic continue to be held by detachments of the home guard and Dniester region guard. Claims by the leadership of Moldova of aggression by the 14th Army most probably are needed to inflame anti-Russian feeling in the republic and to justify the massive armed invasion of the Dniester Republic, which is being prepared. In its attempt to win over the world public, the Moldovan leadership has put blatant disinformation into motion.

Snegur Issues 'Instruction' to Military Units

AU2505085692 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 0400 GMT 25 May 92

[Septimiu Roman report from Chisinau]

[Text] In order to halt bloodshed on the soil of the Republic of Moldova and to defend the republic's independence and territorial integrity, yesterday President Mircea Snegur issued an instruction calling on military units and groups to subordinate themselves to the general staff and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces. Likewise, the Ministry of Defense is requested to work out and implement a series of measures to protect the state and to provide military units and subunits with personnel from among soldiers and reserve military personnel.

The ministries and state departments should ensure the timely and complete execution of the orders of the Ministry of Defense regarding the necessary technical-material and financial means. The Prosecutor's Office should intensify the supervision of the observance of the Republic of Moldova's laws in force on military issues. The instruction is signed by Mircea Snegur, president of the Republic of Moldova.

Yesterday afternoon, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk sent a message of reply to the President of the Republic of Moldova. Kravchuk expressed his regret about the escalation of the armed confrontation in the rayons of the Republic of Moldova on the left bank of the Dniester River. He also expressed concern about the unforeseeable consequences regarding peace and security in the Republic of Moldova and other states.

The Ukraine firmly condemns any armed aggression and calls for negotiated solutions to the conflict and the tense situation, believing that the settlement of the situation in the conflict area can be achieved on the basis of the accords reached during the four-way meeting of the foreign ministers of Moldova, Romania, Russia, and Ukraine, a mechanism whose possibilities have not yet been exhausted.

The message sent by President Leonid Kravchuk to President Mircea Snegur reads in conclusion: As far as Ukraine is concerned, it expresses its willingness to actively participate in the negotiation process that will lead to the reestablishment of peace and understanding in the Republic of Moldova as soon as possible.

Encouraged by the 14th Army's support, on 23 May in the evening and on 24 May in the morning, the separatists who support Smirnov issued repeated appeals on Radio Tiraspol saying that if in three days, starting on 23 May, the troops of the Republic of Moldova do not leave the localities in the conflict area, that is the villages of Cocieri, Cosnita, Molovata Noua, Rosiu, and Corjova, they will start a retaliatory attack.

Lately, the threats of the separatists supported by the 14th Army have been accompanied by an intensification

of attacks against numerous villages on both banks of the Dniester River. In the communique issued by the Ministry of the Interior yesterday morning, the villages of Cocieri, Cosova, (?Rosi), and Molovata were mentioned.

Although it caused the death of one person and wounded several policemen, volunteers, and civilians, the attacks were rejected and the aggressors in turn suffered a significant loss of lives and military hardware. One tank, two armored vehicles, and other devices were destroyed. No strong shelling has been reported in the afternoon. In accordance with the Ministry of Defense communique issued last night, the cause of the lessening of clashes is the courage displayed by the national army, which, although it is still being setting up, is—we quote—the guarantee of our state's integrity, the communique reads in conclusion.

Romanian Military Equipment Ferried Overnight

LD2505122692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 25 May 92

[Correspondent Gennadiy Varfolomeyev report from Tiraspol]

[Text] The situation in the area of conflict was calm this morning. The warring sides are taking no active measures. Troops, and their military equipment from Romania, continue to gather on the right bank of the Dniester across the river from Dubossary. During the night the equipment is ferried across the Dniester to the left bank. The code name of the new operation, Concert, is heard frequently in intercepted radio transmissions.

An extraordinary session of the the Moldovan parliament opens in Chisinau today to discuss the situation in the Dniester region. There will be plenty for the parliamentarians to discuss. The policy of the Moldovan leadership to continue military actions in the Dniester region is clearly not working. Despite the best efforts by Moldovan mass media to create a sense of hysteria and fear in the Dniester region, the population of Moldova does not want to take part in the bloody slaughter. This is confirmed by numerous contacts with people living on the right bank of the Dniester.

Parliament Discusses Social, Political Situation

AU2505125492 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1000 GMT 25 May 92

[Septimiu Roman report from Chisinau]

[Text] Today beginning at 1000 [0700 GMT], the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova met in an extraordinary meeting devoted to the sociopolitical situation in the republic. The meeting endorsed the following agenda:

1. The situation in the republic following the foreign army's intervention, a report that is being presented by the president of the republic, Mircea Ion Snegur;

2. A report in connection with the implementation of the decisions of the Republic of Moldova's Parliament to settle the armed conflict on the left bank of the Dniester River;

3. A report on the draft law on the referendum—second reading—a report presented by Parliament Vice President Victor Puscasu;

4. A report by the National Security Ministry on the situation of the villages inhabited by Gagauz people.

This meeting, which is being held behind closed doors, is continuing at the time of our transmission.

Late last night, in a special edition of its "Messenger" program, Chisinau television broadcast the report by Ion Cebuc, government representative of the Republic of Moldova in Moscow and deputy prime minister of the government. The measures taken by the Republic of Moldova to settle the conflict, this report states among other things, did not coincide with the imperial measures and thus the war could not be avoided. The ideological weapon invoked by certain chauvinistic Russian organizations, which led to the violation of the most sacred laws, such as the freedom and sovereignty of a state, was the idea of the unification with Romania. However, Romania was the first state to recognize the Republic of Moldova as a sovereign and independent state within its own borders. Other countries, including the Russian Federation, also recognized our state.

If today we were to agree with their proposal of setting up a federation, an idea also promoted by Russian Vice President Rutskoy, tomorrow they would find something else, because, in fact, the Russian Federation does not desire the protection of the population of Russian origin in the rayons of the Republic of Moldova located on the left side of the Dniester River, a population that represents only approximately 25 percent of the Russians who are living in the Republic of Moldova, but desires a zone of influence.

Support for the separatists on the left bank of the Dniester is the basis of this conflict, Mr. Ion Cebuc also pointed out. The tendency of the destructive forces is to reestablish the empire. This was also discussed at the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies in the Russian Federation. Consequently, they are doing all they can to jeopardize peace and to assist the separatists.

All the measures taken by the Republic of Moldova, including by its mission in Moscow, have been ignored intentionally. We have reported in the press and officially through a news conference on everything that is being done in the Republic of Moldova to ensure the settlement of this conflict by peaceful means.

Mr. Ion Cebuc recalled, among other things, the cables sent by President Mircea Snegur to Boris Yeltsin and the protest note sent by the representative at the Russian Foreign Ministry. Unfortunately, no answer has been received to either of them nor has Minister of Defense

Grachev admitted the Russi[illegible]deration's interference in the conflict. After hemming and hawing, he proposed a meeting for today to Mr. Ion Cebuc.

An important news conference will also take place at the mission today.

The situation in the conflict area has been calm, Chisinau radio's correspondent on the spot reports. However, the villages of Gura Bicului and Bilcioc were fired at last night. This information has been provided by the Central Observers Commission.

Russia's military observers have arrived. They are to participate in the disengagement of the conflicting forces. A communique by the Republic of Moldova's Ministry of Interior is expected.

We also want to inform you that in accordance with a convention signed between the Command of the Armed Forces of CIS states and the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Moldova, the first military group of the airborne regiment of the Armed forces of CIS states in Chisinau are to leave the Republic of Moldova. A commission made up of representatives of the Ministry of Defense, the Chisinau City Hall, and the regiment Command of the airborne troops is to begin its activity today to take stock of the technical-material base of that unit.

Army Withdrawal 'Main Condition' for Discussion

LD2505143892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1325 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS observer Andrey Sidorin]

[Text] Moscow, 25 May—According to a MOLDOVA-PRESS report from Chisinau, an emergency meeting of the current session of the Moldovan parliament began there today. Opening it, parliament chairman Alexandru Mosanu said the "14th Russian Army" stationed in the Dniester region "has committed open aggression against the Republic of Moldova and has created a mortal threat to the independence and territorial integrity of our state."

The parliament chairman said "intervention by a foreign army is the main reason blocking the resolution of the problem of preserving Moldova's independence and territorial integrity by peaceful means." Mosanu pointed out that "parliament's task is to demand that the official bodies in Russia stop military intervention, immediately withdraw the 14th Army from Moldova, and stop interfering in any form in Moldova's internal affairs".

Later, Moldovan President Mircea Snegur said categorically that "while enjoying the support of the pro-imperialist forces, the Tiraspol (the administrative center of the Dniester region) leaders unleashed a war against the republic and do not wish to resolve problems by peaceful means".

These reports confirm that the Moldavian leadership has decided to take a categorical position and to make the demand for the withdrawal of the 14th Army a main condition, without which there can be no discussion of any settlement of the conflict between Moldova and the Dniester Republic—populated primarily by Russians and Ukrainians—which is not recognized by the former. However, no proof has yet been presented of 14th Army units—as the Moldovan side asserts—violating their neutrality and taking part in the conflict on the side of the Dniester region. Moreover, the Russian Defense Ministry states unambiguously that all Army sub-units are under the complete control of their command, are not taking part in any combat actions, and are maintaining strict neutrality.

The only fact, which was recently reported to television journalists by representatives of the 14th Army command, is that armored vehicles are being moved forward to the areas where the military cantonments, which have been subjected to shelling, are located. This measure was explained by the need to protect servicemen's families.

The foreign ministers of Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, and Romania, who met in Lisbon yesterday, issued a joint statement on the conflict in the Dniester region, coming out in favor of the return of the armored vehicles to the 14th Army and the strict observance of the cease-fire. It would seem that an agreement was reached which should not provide grounds for ultimatums, which are capable only of leading efforts for a cease-fire into an impasse.

Statements resounding in Chisinau again today about the "aggression of the 14th Army" also are surprising because today, as has been confirmed both in the Moldovan capital and in the administrative center of the Dniester region, for the first time in the last 24 hours relative calm has been established in a particularly "hot spot" of the conflict: Around the town of Dubossary. According to the information received from Chisinau and Tiraspol, guns and mortars in the confrontation zone have fallen silent.

So is it worth provoking the disturbance of this fragile calm by another attempt at whipping up passions?

President Asks Ministry To Prepare Defense Plan

OW2505171892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1616 GMT 25 May 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Mircea Snegur has issued a directive today on measures to "defend the Republic of Moldova against armed aggression on the part of the 14th Army siding with the separatists." According to the document, Moldova's independence and territorial integrity is in jeopardy.

Snegur instructs the staff of the Commander-in-Chief of the Moldovan Armed Forces, and the Defense, Interior and National Security ministries to work out and implement concrete measures to avert bloodshed and protect the republic's independence and territorial integrity.

The President instructs all ministries and state departments concerned to provide any material and financial assistance the Defense Ministry may ask for in this connection.

He also recommends the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic to take steps to rule out any violation of the military legislation by any enterprises, organizations, or individuals.

On Monday [25 May], Mircea Snegur spoke at the extraordinary session of the Moldovan parliament about the situation in Moldova following "foreign military intervention". The Ministry of National Security is expected to present a report on the situation in the Gagauz villages of Moldova. The extraordinary session is closed and the public will learn about its work form special press releases.

Snegur Discusses Declaring War With Russia

LD2505173492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1722 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, May 25 TASS—"The Moldovan parliament has to choose between two decisions—either to stop military activities in the Dniester region, which I believe should not be done, or declare a state of war with Russia", Moldovan President Mircea Snegur told a closed-door extraordinary session of the republican parliament on Monday [25 May].

Deputies, who joined to discuss the conflict in the Dniester region which was "aggravated because of interference of the 14th Russian Army", were unprepared to make the choice and suspended the session till Tuesday [26 May].

Snegur told parliamentarians that Russian President Boris Yeltsin had not answered none [as received] of the three telegrams of protest in connection with "the aggression of the 14th Army on the left-hand bank of the Dniester".

The president called on all Moldovans to unite with the republican leaders as the latter bear major responsibility for the future of the country at present.

He criticised the population for a split, saying that the Russian-speaking residents on the right-hand bank of the Dniester prefer to keep silent, while Ukrainians dodge the draft.

Dniester President Appeals for United Republic

LD2505191792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1823 GMT 25 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Tiraspol, May 25 TASS—"We want to keep Moldova united", President of the Dniester region Igor Smirnov said in an appeal to the people on Monday [25 May], on the eve of an extraordinary session of the Dniester parliament.

"For several years we have been trying to convince the Moldovan leadership to listen to the opinion of the Dniester residents, we proposed to create a free trade zone here, an autonomous republic, a federative structure. But all in vain", Smirnov said.

"We are not imposing our position on others by force, while Moldova forces us to accept its variant of our future by shedding blood of our women and children and many people of other nationalities", he stressed, adding that the future of the Dniester region was decided at referenda. "Today we are fighting for the future in trenches", Smirnov said.

The president warned that Moldova is getting ready for a large- scale military operation and called on the people to preserve courage, willpower and believe in success.

The parliamentary session is to discuss economic and administrative measures, however the deputies might legally confirm the sovereignty of the republic which the residents supported at a referendum last December.

Situation remains tense on the eve of the session. Moldovan military vehicles are maneuvering along the frontline. Casualties were reported during a new shelling of the Dubossary hydroelectric power plant.

Defense Minister Proposes Martial Law

LD2505212792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] Moldovan President Mircea Snegur stated at an extraordinary closed sitting of the Parliament today that certain forces in the republic are ready to hand over the Dniester region to separatists.

The Moldovan defense minister proposed that the Parliament should adopt acts on a state of martial law in the republic.

A check and control system was introduced today in the south of Moldova in the rayons densely populated by the Gagauz. This was done with the purpose of neutralizing the groups of saboteurs which are being sent from the territory of Moldova.

Snegur, Muravschi To Confer With Stolyarov

LD2605114892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1000 GMT 26 May 92

[Text] Moldovan President Mircea Snegur and Prime Minister Valeriu Muravschi will have a meeting in Chisinau today with Russian Deputy Defense Minister General Stolyarov. A NEGA correspondent reports that the terms on non-interference by the Russian 14th Army in the Dniester conflict will be discussed during the meeting. A deadline for the withdrawal of Army troop sub-units from the republic has been fixed.

Meanwhile, the situation in the conflict zone in the Dniester region remains tense. The government's press center reported that last night a skirmish began in (?Cosnita). The Moldovan police used Alazan-type rockets. Two guardsmen were injured during the night on 25-26 May, the NEGA agency reported.

Armenia

SAMs Used on Villages for 'First Time'

LD2405233292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 24 May 92

[Report by SNARK News Agency correspondent Armen Dulyan]

[Text] The situation on the Armenian-Nakhichevan border remains tense. Although Geydar Aliyev, chairman of the Supreme Majlis of Nakhichevan, declared a unilateral cease-fire on 23 May, during the night of 23-24 May the Armenian village of Yerashkavan was subjected to an intensive artillery attack from the military bases in Sadarak on the territory of Nakhichevan. Either Aliyev does not control the actions of the armed formations in his republic or his declaration was nothing more than propaganda. In just the last week 12 civilians have been killed and about 30 others wounded as a result of firing from the territory of Nakhichevan.

Firing continues in Nagorno-Karabakh as well. During the night of 23-24 May about 150 projectiles from Grad installations and artillery were fired from the Azerbaijani town of Agdam. In the village of Askeran in western Karabakh three women and one child were killed. In the north of Nagorno-Karabakh Azerbaijanis used surface-to-air missiles [SAMs] for the first time tonight. They were used to attack the Armenian villages of Karachinar, Buzluk, and the rayon center Shaumyan. There is no contact with that rayon. It is impossible to confirm information on the destruction and casualties.

Meanwhile, Kurds who fled from Lachin with the Azerbaijan army are beginning to return to that town. According to reports from there, they are not preventing convoys of humanitarian aid from proceeding from Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh.

Response To Ossetian Gas Supply Halt Noted

LD2405203392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1947 GMT 24 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan May 24 TASS—Gas supply to Armenia was fully cut off on Sunday [24 May] evening. The press centre of the Armenian Government announced that this resulted from the decision of the North Ossetian Parliament to close last night the gas pipeline supplying fuel from Russia to Georgia, the pipeline through which gas is also pumped to Armenia.

Under the government decree, electricity in the residential and production sectors is switched off in one quarter of Yerevan and districts of the republic after another. The central part of Yerevan has been plunged into darkness by now. A delegation of the Armenian Parliament and government was formed to fly to Vladikavkaz on Monday [25 May] to negotiate the resumption of gas supplies.

Ter-Petrosyan on Corridor, Conflict 'Extension'

AU2605102592 Vienna PROFIL in German 26 May 92 p 76

[Interview with Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan by Gregor Mayer in Yerevan; date not given: "We Do Not Want a War"]

[Text] [Mayer] Mr. President, have you not violated Azerbaijan's territorial integrity with the corridor from Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh?

[Ter-Petrosyan] Yes, Azerbaijan's territorial sovereignty is violated by it, the corridor goes right through non-Armenian territory. However, the Karabakh Armenians would have never taken this step if they had not been subject to a total blockade for four years and if a corridor had been established under international control.

[Mayer] Will an open war break out between Armenia and Azerbaijan?

[Ter-Petrosyan] I know that Azerbaijan, Turkey, and others want an extension of the conflict. However, it is still not a conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, but between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan. We will do everything to prevent an escalation of this conflict into a war between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

[Mayer] What solution do you see for the Nagorno-Karabakh problem?

[Ter-Petrosyan] In the first stage an armistice would have to be concluded, the blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh would have to be ended, and international peace troops would secure the borders; 1,500 to 2,000 blue helmets would be enough for us. In the second stage, the political status of Nagorno-Karabakh will be negotiated, the expellees will return home, and the prisoners will be exchanged.

[Mayer] What will be done with the military on Armenian soil?

[Ter-Petrosyan] We have a small national guard for the protection of the borders. The troops of the Commonwealth of Independent States deployed in Armenia are to stay here—under Russia's command. We will conclude an agreement on bases with Russia. Moreover, we want to belong to the collective security system of the CIS.

[Mayer] Many are saying that the CIS is falling apart.

[Ter-Petrosyan] I do not think so at the moment. Although the republics do not take the CIS very seriously, they also do not seem to be willing to part. Their insecure future forces them together.